NATO dismisses cuts urged by Gysi

BRUSSELS (R) — The North Atlantic Treaty Organication (NATO) directored Monday proposals by East German Communist Party leader Gregor Gysi for manaive troop cats in the two German states, saying that it did not went to create special somes for arms control. Gysi, whose party heads a transitional government in the rump to free elections in May, proposed Saturday that all foreign troops should leave East and West Germany by 1999 and that both states haive their own armed forces by next year. NATO-member West Germany also responded coolly, saying it did not take Gysi's call very seriously. Boso government spokesomen Hans Klain said: "Gyst would be better advised to bother himself with East Germany's present problems than to make spectacular public proposals." A NATO spokespan said the proposals were not official and that current East-West talks in Vienna on conventional forces in Europe (CFE) would be the right place to discuss such ideas. "We do not know the reaction of the East German government (to Gysi's propossi), nor of the Warsaw Pact," he said. "We seek comprehensive solutions to the problems of security and stability in Europe, not the creation of special zones," the

AMMAN TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1990, JUMADA AL THANI 12, 1410

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM

(Agencies) — The Israeli army

Monday rounded up more than

100 Palestinians suspected of be-

longing to "strike forces" and

demolished or sealed six houses

sweeps of villages near Ramallah

in the occupied West Bank, and

the military said the detainees

belonged to an organisation re-

Some of the suspects belonged

to strike forces organised by the

mainstream Fatch wing of the

Palestine Liberation Organisa-

tion (PLO), an army official said.

ground groups that enforce

orders of the PLO-linked under-

ground leadership of the Palesti-

Military officials said the group

was responsible for the Oct.

killing of a Palestinian in the

West Bank village of Deir Al

Sudan who allegedly assisted the

Israeli occupation authorities.

with army regulations.

nian uprising.

The strike forces are under-

cently uncovered in the area.

The arrests were made in

overnight, officials said.

## Diplomats display Support for Hrawi

BEIRUT (Agencies) - Fortyattended a new year meeting Monday with President Elias Hrawi, reflecting international backing for Lebanon's new admimistration.

Hrawi received the diplomets at his temporary headquarters in west Beirni.

He has been mable to move to the presidential palace in the Christian suburb of Baabda, held by defiant General Michel Acon and used by him as his headquag-

"Your presence here is a genuine and true expression against all attempts aiming to undernine the legitimate authority, the loss of Lebenon and its cultural role." Hrawi told the diplomats, who wished the president a happy new year.

Hrawi has been locked in a power struggle with Aoun, who is holding out in the Christian enclave. The general refuses to recognise Hrawi, dismissing him

as a Syrian puppet. Hrawi was elected on Nov. 24 in accordance with an internationally-supported peace pact drafted by the Arab League.

"I have taken over a state where man has been almost totally destroyed," by 14 years of civil war. Hrawi said in a speech to the diplomats. "My people want defiverance."

Hrawi said his government was determined to prevent Lebanon's "disintegration on the eve of a new Meson's cast of intermedical relations based on openness," a

reference to superpower detente.

Hirawi, a Maronste, asserted that political reforms would soon be introduced to ensure Christian-Muslim coexistence and resolve the civil war despite the

opposition of Aoun. Aoun, also a Maronite, is bolding out with 20,000 loyalist troops in the Christian eaclave that comprises east Beirnt and the hinterland to the north and northeast. He was refused to turn over the presidential palace in suburban

Baabda to Hrawi. Aoun's defiance threatens to cement Lebanon's de facto partition into sectarian camons. Only the ambassadors of Bri-

tain. Iran and Iraq were absent from Hrawi's audience. British Ambassador Allan

Ramsey said after a visit to former President Suleiman Francisch in his northern bometown of Zehorta:

"There was no need for me to attend the ceremony. President Hrawi is fully aware of the extent of my country's support for him.

and... the legitimate cabinet." The Vatican Monday took its distance from Aoun as it stressed the need for dialogue among all parties in the Lebanese conflict. The statement by chief spokesman Joaquin Navarro empha-

sised the important role the papal

nuncio can play in the country tom by 14 years of civil war. Navarro noted that the nuncio, Spanish Archbishop Pablo Puente, presented his credentials Saturday to Hrawi, which marked the Vatican's formal recognition of the government.

The nuncio said during the credentials ceremony that the Vari-

(Continued on page 3)

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria I pound; Lebanon I pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Israeli army detains

Americans, Israelis, and Palestinians demonstrate Saturday outside the American consulate in Arab Jerusalem, accusing largel of

violating Palestinian human rights and calling for an end to American support of the Jewish state.

## Red Cross moves bodies from Lebanon battle zones

HAMADE HILLTOP, Lebenon (AP) - The Red Cross evacuated 17 decomposed bodies from ficies in embattled villages of South Lebenon Monday during a mercy ceaseine called after 17 days of fighting between rival Shi ite Muslim militias.

The bodies, wrapped in blankets and plastic bags, belonged to militiamen of the Syrian-backed, mainstream Amal movement which has been fighting the pro-Iranian Hizbollah.

An overpowering steach hang in the air as the bodies were handed over by the Red Cross team to a group of Amal scouts who returned the corpses to their families.

The casualties raised the overall toll in the inter-Shi'ite bloodboth to 94 killed and 275 wounded, by police count, since the fighting started Dec. 23 in Iolim

The seven-hour truce took hold in most villages after Palestinian fighters deployed in a buffer zone in Iglim Al Tufah to disengage the

two warring factions. Iranian envoy Mohammad Ali

Besharati, trying to mediate a settlement to end the two-year- plemented, before any withold power struggle for control over Lebanon's largest single sect of 1.3 million people, drove from Syria overnight for talks with Shi ite leaders.

Besharati, a deputy foreign minister, failed to rein in the clashes on a previous trip last Hatta, Kfar Milki and Kfar Beit

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) dispatched eight ambulances and eight station wagons with medical teems from Beirut to evacuate casualties trapped in the villages of the enbattled province, an ICRC statement said.

Statements by the command of the rival factions in Beirut spoke of dozens of decomposed bodies lying in the fields, in addition to wounded civilians and combatants in urgent need of medical

A Hizbollah leader, who was not identified, said in a statement

that the group wanted a ceasefire and guarantees that a peace agreement would be im-

drawal. Amal has refused to negotiate until Hizbollah withdraws from the five villages which its fighters

Police said both factions withheld fire in the villages of Kfar as the ICRC teams rolled in. But elsewhere in the province. particularly around the villages of Jarjon, Jbaa and 'Ain Bouswar,

Hizbollah and Amai fighters kept

up a steady exchange of artillery fire. No casualties were reported. About 700 Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) guerrillas now man a three-kilometre buffer separating the villages of Kfar Hatta, Kfar Milki and Kfar Beit. That prevents the two sides from launching major ground

thrusts, but it does not necessarily stop them lobbing artillery shells and rockets over the heads of guerrillas in the buffer zone.



Shekk Hussein Fadialish

The fighting had raged five to

Police have said the PLO intervention was ordered by Chairman Yasser Arafat apparently to prevent either Shi'ite faction from gaining territory from which the two camps, his main power base in Lebanon, can easily be

eight kilometres southeast of the Palestinian refugee camps of 'Ain Al Hilweh and Mich Mich near Sidon, 40 kilometres south of

MOSCOW (R) — Leaders in the Soviet Union's volatile Far South are promising to investigate the killing of a baby and other grievances that sperked the latest bouts of etimic tension to dog the Kremin\_

The Communist Party chief in the Soviet Republic of Georgia called on rival Georgians and Osections, at odds over the recent shooting of the nine-month-old infant, not to take the law into their own hands.

In neighbouring Azerbaijan, leaders of the radical Popular Front and local officials planned a meeting later this week to calm passions after a week of rioting in the Nakhichevan area adjoining

As southern unrest surfaced again, Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev prepared for a factfinding mission this week to the Baltic Republic of Lithuania, where the local Communist Party has broken with Moscow.

Seemingly intractable ethnic problems in the Transcaucasus and fresh challenges from the Baltic republics, where separatist sentiment is growing, have threatened to derail Gorbachev's

reform programme. But no clear threats have emerged to his leadership despite fears among liberals that conservative forces might exploit the unrest and challenge him for

Georgian Communist Party chief Givi Gumbaridze toured the republic's autonomous South Ossetia district Sunday and, in a televised address, promised a

government investigation into the killing of the babv. A group of Georgian jouranlists blamed what they called "repeated pogroms" by Ossetians for the death.

Local people said Georgian extremists had blockaded Tskhinvali, capital of South Ossetia, where dozens of people have been injured in fighting between Ossetians and Georgians since November. Extra security forces have been deployed in the region,

"It is clear from the situation that there are still forces who do not want stability," Gumbaridze said. "They have brought it on

local radicals said.

Thousands of Georgians, demanding supression of the radical

National Front of South Ossetia demonstrated Sunday in the republican capital Tbilisi, local officials said. In Azerbaijan, crowds of pre-

dominantly Shi'ite Muslim Azeris destroyed installations on the frontier with Iran in a week of rioting in the border district of Nakhichevan.

They were seeking more farmland and easier contact with fellow Azeris across the border.

The official Iranian news agency IRNA said some 300 Soviet Azeris stood on the banks of the border Araks River Sunday chanting Islamic slogans to supporters and relatives on the Iranian side. It said Soviet guards watched the demonstration without interfering.

overthrow South Africa's white disbanded.

appear before the forum.

Another was for freedom in return for his public repudiation of the armed nationalist

gates voted to resume talks then. Earlier, one opposition group

government and human rights groups in Israel and abroad as collective punishment. A study released Dec. 20 by the Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies dis-

puted army claims that house demolitions reduced violence. It found that in many cases such measures inflamed the situation. At least 245 houses have been demolished and 120 sealed since the uprising began 25 months ago, according to army figures.

has been criticised by the U.S.

In Gaza City, the army destroyed the house of Hussein Hijazi Al Luah, 26, who belonged to the "Revolutionary Eagles" group which the army said was linked to Fatch guerrillas. Arab reporters said the two-room house was home to 11 people. Luah, arrested last October,

They were also suspected of was suspected of joining Fateh during the uprising, after which stabbing and wounding two other alleged collaborators and of torhe killed a Gaza City municipality worker, wounded a number of ching and firebombing Arabowned cars as punishment for other alleged collaborators and helping Israel, said the officials tried to shoot another municipal who are identified in accordance worker, they said.

The Gaza City house of Said Shaaban Al Awabi, 35, was sea-Four houses of alleged strike led, the military said. Officials force members in the Ramallah area were sealed overnight, they said the man, arrested last July,

100, destroys homes was accused of being a strike The army defends its policy of force member who had kidnaphouse demolitions and sealings by ped and violently interrogated saying it serves as a strong deter-Arabs suspected of collaborating rent against future protests, but it with Israel.

An Israeli military court has jailed an Arab journalist for 15 months for writing part of an underground leaflet for the up-

The military court in Lod convicted Hamzeh Samadi, 29, last week of writing an introduction to a leaflet by the claudestine leadership of the uprising. The

sentence was passed Sunday. Samadi, originally from the West Bank city of Jenin, was employed at an Arab Jerusalem press office when he was detained last March.

Sari Nusseibeh, owner of the press office, was named in court documents as an intermediary between the leadership of the intifada and the PLO abroad, but was not prosecuted because of what Israeli officials called "extra-judicial considerations."

The relatively light sentence indicated the court took into consideration that Samadi's writing had called for ending bloodshed and for coexistence between Israelis and Palestinians.

Three other Palestinian activists, detained at the same time on similar charges, are awaiting trial, lawvers said.

## Abu Musa group rejects Fahoum reconciliation call

(PNC), the Palestinian parlia-

ment-in-exile, told Reuters he

had acted in response to changes

in Eastern Europe, a traditional

source of support for the PLO,

and changes in the Arab World

especially last month's renewal of

diplomatic relations between

of solidarity, detente, and the

PLO cannot stay on the outside,"

"Now all the Arabs are talking

backed Palestinian group, Fatchuprising, said Monday it saw no reason to bury its quarrel with the mainstream Palestine Liberation

Organisation (PLO). "We do not find anything to the Palestine National Council justify reunion with the deviationists... unless there is a frank announcement from the PLO leadership renouncing its past destructive policies," said Abdul Hadi Al Nashash, a spokesman for the group.

Fatch-uprising, led by Colonel Mohammad Saced Musa (Abu Musa), broke from Yasser Arafat's Fatch group in a rebellion against the PLO leadership in Along with three other groups,

it belongs to the Palestine National Salvation Front (PNSF), whose chairman Khaled Fahoum proposed reconciliation with the PLO last week. The PNSF met Monday to dis-

cuss the proposal and later announced it had decided to continue talks on the issue.

Its other members, the Baathist Al Saiga, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palstine-

he said. "It's not in our interests to go with one Arab bloc against another." The Fatch-uprising statement dismissed the idea that world

Egypt and Syria.

developments required the group to change its stand. "On the contrary, these international developments mean we should stiffen our position," Nashash said. Fahoum said he favoured discussion of reconciliation at a

meeting of 40 to 50 Palestinian

leaders to which the Islamic Re-

General Command led by sistance Movement (Hamas) and Alimad Jibril, and the revolution- Islamic Jihad, both based in the ary Communist Party have not Israeli-occupied territories, reacted publicly to Fahoum's in- would be invited. Such a meeting could discuss reform of the PLO's political and Fahoum, a former speaker of

financial methods, PLO unity and improving PLO relations with the whole Arab World, particularly Egypt and Syria. He said PLO leader Yasser

Arafat had split Palestinian opinion by offering too many concessions in search of peace. "We want Arafat to stop his

concessions and to have a collective PLO leadership, not a oneman leadership," he said.

"The United States gave Arafat nothing and promised him nothing while Israel has become more and more arrogant." The Popular Struggle Front, a

small Damascus-based group within the PLO, said in a statement it welcomed Fahoum's call for unity and urged all Palestinian factions to support it.

The front said it wanted a meeting of the PNC to agree on a formula that would assure unity within the PLO.

# Dispute over secret police clogs E. German dialogue

EAST BERLIN (AP) - Talks on the country's future between the communist-dominated government and the opposition were suspended Monday after the government rebuffed a demand for an immediate status report on its domestic-spying apparatus. Opposition groups had

threatened to leave the talks altogether if the government could not prove its pledge that the hated secret police network had been disarmed and was being But delegates instead voted to

break off talks only until next Monday, when a senior government official was expected to

The talks were repeatedly halted Monday as representatives of the fractured reform movement argued over how to proceed. One group said it would withdraw from the negotiations unless the government gave a full accounting of the secret police situation the same day.

ter Halbritter said the demand for an immediate report was "illogical." But he said a government representative could speak on the matter next Monday, and delemonth ago, secret police agents were continuing to work against the reformers.

charged that as recently as

Rolf Henrich of New Forum, the largest of the opposition forces, made public what he said was a draft telex prepared by secret police agents in the city of Gera on Dec. 9. In it, authorities in East Berlin were urged to take steps to "paralyse" the opposi-

However, Henrich said he was uncertain if the telex was ever sent. Leaders at the talks, including Communist Party chief Gregor Gysi, said they had no knowledge of such a message.

Democratic Awakening leader Wolfgang Schnur, who said opposition groups were temporarily pulling out of the talks over the issue, demanded that the national prosecutor's office and the Interior Ministry make an accounting of the domestic surveillance situation.

A collapse of the talks could Government spokesman Wal- endanger the already fragile acceptance of Communist Premicr Hans Modrow's transitional cabinet by opposition groups, who themselves have been unable to present a unified front.

> The Modrow government, formed after a peaceful pupular

thoritarian Communist rule, has promised to create conditions for free and fair elections May 6. The negotiations, launched Dec. 7, include some 40 delegates from the Communists, other political parties long aligned with them but now independent, and

revolution toppled one-party au-

Dozens of citizens' groups pressing for social, political, environmental and economic reforms have sprung up throughout East Germany since the Oct. 18 ouster of hardline Communist leader Erich Honecker and the nation's turn towards democracy and open borders.

the pro-democracy opposition.

As talks resumed Monday, the opposition demanded that the government disarm agents of the former state security office by Jan. 19 and drop plans to set up a new agency to succeed it before the May elections.

Peter Koch, named by the 20vernment to oversee dissolution of the secret police, said authorities plan to confiscate all of the former agency's arms by the end of January. Former agents are already barred from access to weapons, he said, and telephonebugging equipment has been dismantied.

### Mandela expects to be free within weeks PAARIA South Africa (R) -Black South African nationalist

leader Nelson Mandela signalled for the first time on Mouday that he expects to be free within WEEKS. He told his wife in a prison

meeting to begin arrangement for his release. It was the first time since his arrest in August 1962 and his 1964 Me sentence for sabotage that Mandels or his wife. Winnie, had acknowledged any optimism about an immiscut

resemble. . follow is the resi staff now," Whereie Mandria told reporters at the gates of the Victor Verster prison form about 60 kilometres northeast of Cape Town, where her husband is held in a bungalow previously used by a white

. She said: "I don't think we are talking about months my

previously insisted he had no idea when he would return home, asked her during a threehour visit to begin preliminary arrangements for his release.

arrangements could involve.

comiversary in Lucator, Zambie.

Monday with a statement out-

lining conditions for talks with

the white South African govern-

She said Mandels, who had She declined to say what those

Mandela, 71, is a leader of South Africa's outlewed African National Congress (ANC) and a founder of its military wine. Unikhonto we Slawe (Spear of the Nation). The ANC marked his 78th

ment and calling for intendified international action against

epartecia. The movement restlirmed its commitment to armed opposition to white rule, but offered a cessefaire "as soon as a climate conducive to negotiations is cre-

With family lawer Dullah Omer at her side, Mrs. Mandela acknowledged with a broad smile that it was the first time she had felt may optimize about her husband's release.

"I am very hopeful now," she said as she left for a flight to Johannesburg, where she is expected to see members of a nationalist committee est up to coordinate Mandak s release. Government sources have

said they expected Mandela to

be free late in January or after the white-dominated perliament begins work on Feb. 2. President F.W. de Klerk,

who took control of the government in September, has said in newspaper interviews that he intended to release Mandela 986EL.

He has said Mandela's release would be part of his effort to draw discufranchised blacks into talks about a shared political fature without dominatien of any one group by another.

"It is difficult to say when it could be." Mrs. Mandela said, "But I don't think we are talking about months may longer." Mundela was laffed for life with seven others for plotting to minority government. He has repeatedly refused deals offered by the government for his release, saying through

One offer was for release into internal exile in the aunth coast Transkei homeimod where he was born a minor prince in

his daughter Zindzi in 1985 that

"only free men can negotiate."

struggle against white rule. His colleagues, including former ANC secretary-general Walter Sisula, were freed last Oct. 15 in what many observers saw as a rehearmal for Mandela's release.

### auwaiti crown prince begins visit to Egypt

CAIRO (Agencies) — Kuwait's Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah arrived in Egypt Monday for a four-day visit likely to increase trade between the two countries.

Sheikh Saad, heading a team of ministers and top officials, was met by Prime Minister Atef Sedki before starting talks with President Hosni Mubarak.

Newspapers said discussions would centre on Kuwaiti investment in Egyptian agriculture and industry. They said an agreement on marketing goods in each other's countries was likely to be signed.

Cairo's semi-official daily Al Gomhuriya said the crown prince was expected to visit an exhibition by Egyptian defence indus-

Kuwait has an estimated \$3 billion in public and private investments as well as bank deposits in Egypt. Egyptian officials have called it the largest foreign investor in the country.

Sheikh saad's visit includes meetings with Sedki and other senior Egyptian officials as well as sightseeing tours. After the end of the official visit, he will stay on for a three-day private

Kuwait has become a key potential customer for Egypt's military industry, especially after it was the target of Iranian missile attack and other hostilities during the Gulf war.

Economic and military relations between Kuwait and Egypt

## Sudan says 214 killed in recent tribal clashes

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan said Monday that 214 people were killed and 38 injured in clashes late last month between tribesmen and southerners in central Sudan, raising the official death toll by 28. The official Sudan News Agen-

cy (SUNA) said the ruling military junta would set up a highpowered committee to probe the clashes Dec. 28 in the town of Al-Gebelein The rebel Sudan People's Li-

beration Army (SPLA), fighting troops in the south since 1983. said in a radio broadcast Thursday that more than 2,000 south-- erners were killed in the clashes. It said the killings were carried out by militiamen recruited and armed by the Khartoum government, which it accused of com-

. Foreign diplomats and relief workers, citing reports from the area, said at least 600 people were killed, mostly from the nilotic southern Shilok tribe, which,

received a strong push during the Iranian missile attacks on Kuwaiti vessels and coastal regions before the Iraq-Iran ceasefire went into effect Aug. 20, 1988. Mubarak has often stated that

Egypt was under obligation to come to the aid of Kuwait and other Arab Gulf states against any Iranian threats. Another cornerstone of

Kuwaiti-Egyptian relations is the estimated 200,000 Egyptian expatriates working in Kuwait. They form the second largest foreign community in the country after the Palestinians. The traditionally good links be-

tween the two countries received fresh momentum during a visit to Cairo last September by Kuwait's emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, and later by the defense minister, Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

During his November visit, Nawaf extensively inspected sophisticated arms and military equipment produced by the Egyptian military industries and promised to consider their suitability for the needs of the Kuwaiti armed forces.

Kuwait recently declared it had started receiving arms involved in a deal it signed earlier with Egypt, including Fahd armoured cars and the Amoun air defense

Sheikh Saad declared Sunday his talks with Mubarak and the Egyptian leader's top aides would focus on bilateral relations and means of boosting Arab solidarity

with the Nuir and Dinka tribes.

are the main ethnic groups in

southern Upper Nile region,

whose northern border is about

50 kilometres south of Al Gebe-

lein where the killings last Thurs-

Al Gebelein is 350 kilometres

south of Khartoum in the White

Nile province where many south-

erners have settled in recent years

after escaping famine and fighting

between troops and the (SPLA).

Blue Nile; South Darfur and

South Kordofan, stretching

across Sudan from the Ethiopian

border in the east to Chad in the

west, have in recent years seen a

series of massacres of southerners.

General Omar Hassan Al Bashir.

in power since he led a coup last

June, says the Arab inhabitants

of those areas had no choice but

to arm themselves in the face of

bullets will solve the problem.

of my life in prison, if that is the

only way to reach out

people believing that to

solve the problems in the Mid-

dle East we must be willing to

talk to each other. Soon after

my release, I shall meet the

Palestine Liberation Organisa-

tion and keep talking no matter

pened to my country. This is

not the country I knew when I

came bere in 1948. We have

Something terrible has hap-

what the cost.

I am ready to spend the rest

repeated SPLA attacks.

The military government of

The provinces of White Nile,

The Shiloks live mainly in the

southern Sudan.

day took place.

## Turkey: Anti-Muslim protests in Bulgaria a last-ditch bid Parliament President Stanko

ANKARA (Agencies) — Protests sweeping Bulgaria against the restoration of rights to its ethnic Turkish minority are lastditch efforts by remnants of the ousted regime, Turkey's foreign minister was quoted Monday as

WAR, REAL AND PLAY — Fighters of the

Shi'ite Amal militia, engaged in fierce battles with

"We hope that the new Bulgarian leaders can break this resistance by the remnants of the (Todor) Zhivkov regime and remove the only major trouble spot in our relations," Mesut Yilmaz told the semi-official Anatolian

Yilmaz was speaking in Bahrain at the end of an official visit. He is due to meet Bulgaria's Foreign Minister Boyko Dimitrov in Kuwait Tuesday for talks on the future of the minority, over 300,000 of whom fied to Turkey last year.

"We believe the majority of Bulgarians are not chauvinistic and see these protests as lastditch efforts of local officials against the recent changes." Yilmaz said. Despite the interior minister's

warning that "a hard time will befall the country whose people is divided," protests are continuing in Bulgaria against the restored rights of Muslims and ethnic Turks.

Todorov used a Sunday evening radio address to call for a sevenday "social forum," beginning Monday, to discuss "several aspects of the national question."

Todorov invited representatives of the Bulgarian- and Turkish-speaking populations from northeastern and southern regions to take part in the forum. He said members of parliament, opposition groups, ruling Communist Party members, as well as Bulgarian orthodox and Muslim religious leaders should also

Up to 10,000 people rallied in Sofia Sunday to protest the restoration of religious and ethnic rights two weeks ago. Interior Minister Anatas

Semerdzhiev told the crowd that the protests could undermine "the tendencies towards democracy in the country," but the protesters jeered him. There is widespread specula-

tion that the anti-Turk and -Muslim sentiment is being fanned by officials loyal to Zhivkov, the longtime Communist leader who was ousted in November and replaced by the reform-minded Petar Mladenov.

It was the straight fourth day of protests against a Dec. 29 deci-

sion by the new Communist leadership to allow Bulgaria's estimated 1.5 million Muslims and ethnic Turks to use Muslim names and practice their religion

Hizhollah, watch children as they play wargames

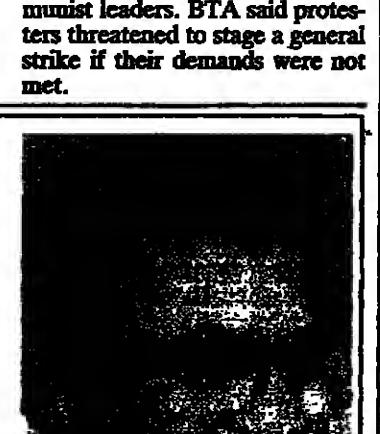
in a South Lebanese village

The decision reversed the assimilation policy pursued by Zhivkov. Under it, ethnic Turks were forced to change their names to Bulgarian ones, Muslim religious practices and the use of the Turkish language were restricted. The official decision to reverse

Zhivkov's ethnic policies has sparked public demonstrations in several of the country's cities by Slavs protesting the decision as well as by ethnic Turks rallying for their rights.

The Dec. 29 decision drew protest from some Slavic Bulgarians whose orthodox religion along with anti-Turkish sentiment bred by long centuries of Turkish rule - led them to support the -assimilation campaign.

Carrying banners that read: "Bulgaria — a one-nationality country," protesters in Sofia gathered outside the Alexander Nevski Cathedral and called for a referendum to be held on the issue and the resignation of Communist leaders. BTA said protesters threatened to stage a general



The Americans spoke to the Vietcong, the French to the FLN, the Portuguese to the Frelimo, the British with Mau Man, and now even South Africa is willing to talk to the African National Congress. Only our government is blind. That is why I am in pain over what is happening.

## Habash wants PNC to reconsider strategy

By Alistair Lyon Reuters

DAMASCUS - George Habash, symbol of the loyal opposition to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat, wants the Palestinian parliament-in-exile to examine the results of the PLO's peace strategy.

"The question is simple: After all these concessions, what positive result has been achieved?" the leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) told Reuters.

He said the PFLP was pressing for the Palestine National Council (PNC), the PLO's highest legislative body, to meet soon to consider what the moderate policy it endorsed in Algiers in November 1988 had won for the alesumans

"Arafat is not enthusiastic about the idea but we are very enthusiastic," Habash said Sunday at his unpretentious Damascus office, decorated with portraits of PFLP martyrs and fading posters of guerrillas with flowers in their assault rifles.

The Algiers PNC proclaimed an independent Palestinian state that would coexist peacefully with the state of Israel.

U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, which call for an exchange of land for peace, affirmed Israel's right to exist and renounced terrorism.

These pronouncements induced the United States to open a dialogue with the PLO in December 1988, but PLO leaders say results from the talks have been "The PLO leadership has made

a great mistake," Habash said. "It bet too much on diplomacy-...and the United States concinded that the way to overcome any obstacle in the peace process is to put pressure on the PLO "The PLO leadership thought

the way to win the diplomatic

battle was to make one conces-

sion after another and this has affected the harmony of the (Palestinian) uprising," he said Habash said the PLO Executive Committee should have stuck to the position that the Algiers PNC resolutions, which he accepted at the time with reservations, represented maximum con-

The PFLP chief said the PLO should return to armed struggle and concentrate on intensifying the uprising in the occupied West

Arafat subsequently accepted Bank and Gaza strip, now in its

third year. "The intifada should not be an alternative to the armed struggle. The two are complementary," he

The uprising had made great gains in convincing world opinion that the Palestinians deserved self-determination and an independent state, he added. "But we have to confess that

the Palestinian peace plan has not succeeded so far and the clear reason is the stand of Israel supported by the American administration," Habash said. He voiced scepticism about

U.S.-Egyptian attempts to arrange talks between Israel and Palestinians to discuss Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's plan for elections in the occupied territories to choose representatives to negotiate self-rule.

Habash said Shamir was unlikely to accept five conditions for such talks set by the PLO. PLO demands include the right to name the Palestinian delegates publicly, an open agenda and international participation.

"I doubt the meeting will take place and I hope we won't face a situation where the PLO leadership concedes these five points," Habash said.

## Iranian rebels report tension after anti-Montazeri protests

NICOSIA (R) — An Iranian opposition group said Monday tension was rising in several central Iranian cities as merchants closed shops to protest attacks on top-ranking Shi'ite cleric Ayatollah Hussein Ali Montazeri, once designated successor of the late leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

In a report from Baghdad received in Nicosia, the Mujahedeen-e-Khalq said turmoil had spread from Montazen's hometown of Najafabad to the nearby provincial capital of Isfahan. The report, which could not be

independently of Isfahan. The report, which could not be independently confirmed, came after the Iranian press reported demonstrations in the holy city of Qom, 220 kilometres to the north, against any return to political life of Montazeri, 66.

Three months before his death in June, Khomeini dismissed Montazeri as his designated heir and told him to stay out of politics. A council of senior clergymen chose Ayatollah Ali Khamenei as Iran's leader in-

Tehran newspaper said Monday that thousands of clergy and laymen demonstrated at the Fayziyeh religious school and outside Montazeri's home in

They did not give any reasons for the anti-Montazeri demonstrations but said slogans shouted against him included "Montazeri should know that to obey Khamenei is to obey imam (Khomeini)." The Mujahedeen said the re-

newed attacks on Montazeri were triggered by a speech in which the bearded, white-turbaned cleric condemned the new Iranian leadership as traitors. Tensions have risen sharply in

te city of Najafabad in the central Iranian province of Isfahan over the past few days," the Mujahedeen said. "Bazaar merchants and traders have been closing their business a

few hours a day in support of Hossein Ali Montazeri... in the latest round of power struggle within the clerical regime, according to reports from Iran,"

"Tensions have spread to the city of Isfahan, where the atmosphere is reported to be 'agitated'," the Mujahedeen added.

The group said a considerable number of senior cieries backed Montazeri in his confrontation with Khameinei and President

Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani. "They include (Abdol Karim) Mousavi Ardebili, the former



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Ten I

EDaily

Hussein Ali Montazeri

chief justice dismisse by Khamenei, and (Abdollah) Javadi Amoli, Khomeini's personal envoy to the Soviet Union," it

Montazeri had also received pledges of support from a group of parliamentary deputies and branches of the revolutionary guards, the Mujahideen added. The report said Montazeri's

supporters from various cities have been going to Qom to declare their support for him.

## Ex-spymaster of Israel says he warned Noriega of invasion '

TEL AVIV (AP) — Former Israeli spymaster Mike Harari has said Panama had been on alert for a year for a possible U.S. invasion and that he warned dictator Manuel Antonio Noriega that "the ground is burning" just before the attack finally came.

Noriega "understood, of course, that something was going to happen," Harari added in an interview published Monday by the Yediot Aharonot daily.

Harari has staunchly denied claims by U.S. officials that he was a top aide to Noriega, acknowledging only in an Israel Television interview Saturday that they were friends. But left-wing legislators have

urged a parliamentary investigation into Harari's alleged dealings in Panama where he spent much time after retiring from Israel's Mossad intelligence agency in "There is no doubt that Harari

was Noriega's right-hand man," said one of the legislators, Yossi Sarid of the left-wing Citizens' Rights Movement. Harari told Yediot that he

would answer such charges if an investigative committee was formed. I don't fear anything," he said.

The Israeli-born Harari, 62, told the newspaper he last saw Notiega the weekend before the American invasion of Dec. 20. "For a whole year there had

been an alert. He understood of

course that something was going to happen," Harari said. "I told him the ground is burning." Harari reiterated that he never dealt in weapons or intelligence since leaving Israeli services. He said he was a businessman in Panama, working out deals for Israeli companies to do projects in the Central American nation:

"I was a friend to Noriega and that I don't deny. Because of this friendship, legends abounded about my status, supposedly, and this was taken in by the Americans but it is pure legend," he Harari also said he had never

received a salary from Noriega. Reports here say Harari once was Mossad's chief of operations and played a key role in Israel's 1976 rescue of passengers on a hijacked Air France jet in Entebbe, Uganda. He reportedly staked out Entebbe airport, masbusinessman.

#### Nathan: I'll talk with PLO again The following article by Abie Nathan, Israeli peace campaigner, lost our values. There is nothing humanistic or Jewish in our actions. Without any

appeared in the New York Times on Jan. 7 under the head, "I'll talk with the PLO again":

best-known peace campaigners, to six months in prison for meeting with Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), A 1986 law bars contacts between Israelis and the PLO, which Israel calls a terrorist organisation — while in Eyal prison, Robert Miller, a Manhattan advertising executive who is a longtime friend).

KFAR SABB, Israel — For me, the past days have been a very difficult, lonely and frustrating period. Surrounded by a barbed wire fence with dogs all along the fence barking all the time to remind you that you are a prisoner. knew what I was going to

get. I have no regrets and I can assure you that I shall continue on my path as long as young soldiers have to risk their lives and young Arab children have to be gunned down — as long as people believe that stones and

leadeship we are just drifting On Dec. 3, an Israeli court sentenced Abie Nathan, one of Israel's and may any day enter a storm that could create havoc. What a pity. I continue to live here and fight on because I

still believe that we have a beautiful generation among the young that need so much to be guided and given hope and to be shown undestanding and compassion. I have received hundreds of letters from all across the country, all of them appealing to me to hang on, explaining that I am not alone. But the road is still a long and

lonely one. My fear is that these talks may not succeed. It is just a delay gimmick and not an bonest attempt by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to solve the problem.

I fear that such failure might bring about the kind of frustration among the Palestinians

that the PLO could not control. And the extremists among them might start an armed struggle leading to the shooting of Israeli soldiers. This would bring out extrem-

ists in Israel, to demand the kind of killings and deportations in a moment of anger that will result in the end of the peace treaty with Egypt. Such actions, I believe, will cause the intifada to spread among Israeli Arabs, who have for a long time felt a sense of discrimination. Only now we will have the intifada spread to every village - all it needs is a few people to start the trouble in every vil-

All this could be avoided if we had the kind of leadership with courage and vision to look into the future and understand that we have to talk to the representatives of the Palestinians. Today, that is still the



## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

ZARQA:

#### JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19

15:40 ..... Programme review

15:45 ...... Children programmes

18:00 ...... News summary in Arabic

18:95 .... Local programme

PROGRAMME ONE

20323	Total brokramme
19:10	Agricultural programme
19:45	Programme review
70.00	News in Arabic
20:36	Arabic series
21:36	Programme review
27-40	Local programme
22-00	lews summary in Arabic
43 <del>200</del>	icas sminnai à es vigosc
PROGRAMME	TWO Locifer
	News in French
·19:15	Loft story
19-34	News in Hebrew
26-66	Name in Ambie
20:00	News in Arabic
20:00 20:30	News in Arabic Mr. Belvedere
20:00 20:30	News in Arabic
20:00 20:30 21:00	News in Arabic Mr. Belvedere

**PRAYER TEMES** (Sourise) Duba 18:18 Material Marie Toba

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazureth Clearch, Sweifieh Assemblies of God Church, Tel. St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Church of the Ansancistion Tel. De la Salle Charch Tel. 661757 Terrasanta Cleurch Tel: 622366 Church of the Annuaciation Tel. Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. Armenian Catholic Church Tel. Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751. American International Church Tcl. Svangelical Lutheran Church Tel: The Charch of Jesus Christ of Latter-

### WEATHER

Day Salatt Tel. 815817, 654932.

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be cloudy with increasing chances of showers particularly in the southern and eastern parts of the Kingdom. Winds will be northwesterly

### moderate. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy with chances of showers. Winds will be southerly moderate and calm

Min./max. temp.

Amman ...... -2/10 Agaba ..... 6/17 Deserts ..... -2 / 12 Jordan Valley ...... 4/17 Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 9, Aqube 19. Humidity readings: Amman 48 per cent, Anaba 40 per

#### USEFUL TELEPHONE MUMBERS ALLON THE CALLERY

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r. Yousef Rashod	732056
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### Shmeisani pharmacy ...... 637660 Dr. Ziad Al A'raj ..... (—) Al Sheraa' pharmacy ..... (985238) Dr. Akram Hadded ..... (--) Khalifeh pharmacy ..... 985417

## EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department	66111
Civil Defence Immediate	
Rescue	630341
Civil Defence Emergency	199
Rescue Police 192_621111	637777
Fire Brigade	201770
Blood Bank	775171
Links of The	7/3161
Highway Police	84,140
Traffic Police	876390
Public Security Department	630321
Hotel Complaints	<b>GOSROS</b>
Price Complaints	441174
Water and Sewerage	001110
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Complaints	<b>897467</b>
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Complaints	787111
Telephone Information	· <b>V</b> / <b>L</b> 1 1
friends and the said	
(directory assistance)	121
Liverage Calle	010230
Central Amman Telephone	
Repairs	672184
	المتكتمة

Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
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Radio Jordan
Water Authority
Sectric Power
Company 636381
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HOSPITALS

AMMAN:	
Hussein Medical Centre	213213/11
Khahdi Maternity, J. Ann	
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Akileh Maternity, J. Anna	D4244112
Jabal Amman Maternity	····· 642362
Malhas, J. Azzman	636140
Palestine, Shmeisani	664171/4
Shmeisani Flospital	669131
University Hospital	845845
Al-Muscher Hospital	6672276
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At Abli Abdali	an WYULLIJI Versev
Al-Ahli, Abdali	**** OD4104£
italian, Al-Muhajrocu	77/101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashratich	775111 <i>12</i> 4
After Market	891611/15
Quoca Alia Hospital	602740/50
Amal Hospital	674154
ZAROA:	Urtida
Zanas Cara Mamital	/Antonomen
Zarga Govt. Hospital Zarga National Hospital . Iba Sina Hospital	. (0)/963323
Carra Namonal Hospital .	. (09)991071
Ite Sina Hospital	. (09)986732

### Princess Besma Hospital Greek Catholic Hospital Ibn Al Nafees Hospital Princess Haya Hospital .... (03)314111 FOR THE TRAVELLER **QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

ment at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified. ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

This information is supplied by Royal

Jordanian (RJ) Information depart-

64:45 Singapore, Knala Lumpur (RJ) 89:00 ..... Dombacus (RI) 09:10 ...... Jeddah (RJ) 09:15 ...... Agaba (RJ) 69:35 ..... Muscat, Dubai (RJ) 69:55 ...... Doha, Bahrain (R.I) 10:00 ...... Abu Dhabi, Kuwait (R.I) 11:15 ...... Belgrade, Bucharest (RI) 15:45 ..... Montreal, New York (RJ) 17:00 ..... Barbded (RJ)

17:55 .... Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ) 19:40 ...... Tripoli (RI) 19:55 ...... Belgrade, Bucharest (RI) Other Flights (Terminal 2)

10:30 ..... Kuwait (KU) 13:15 ..... Moscow, Larraca (SU 17:85 ..... Rome (AZ) 17:36 ..... Dubei, Damascus (EK) 19:35 ..... Beirut (ME) 20:10 ...... Zurich, Larracz (SR) 00:35 ..... London (BA) DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

11:45 ..... Rome, Madrid (RJ 12:30 Prinkfurt, London (RI)
13:30 Baghdad (RI) 19:40 ..... Kuwait, Dhahran (R.) 28c20 ..... Calco (R.) 21:19 ...... Larmace (RI 21:15 ...... Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RI

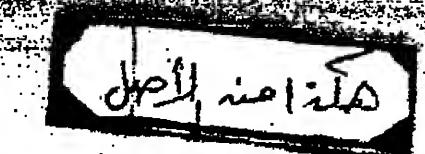
21:30 Kusia Lumper, Singapore (RJ) Other Flights (Terminal 2)

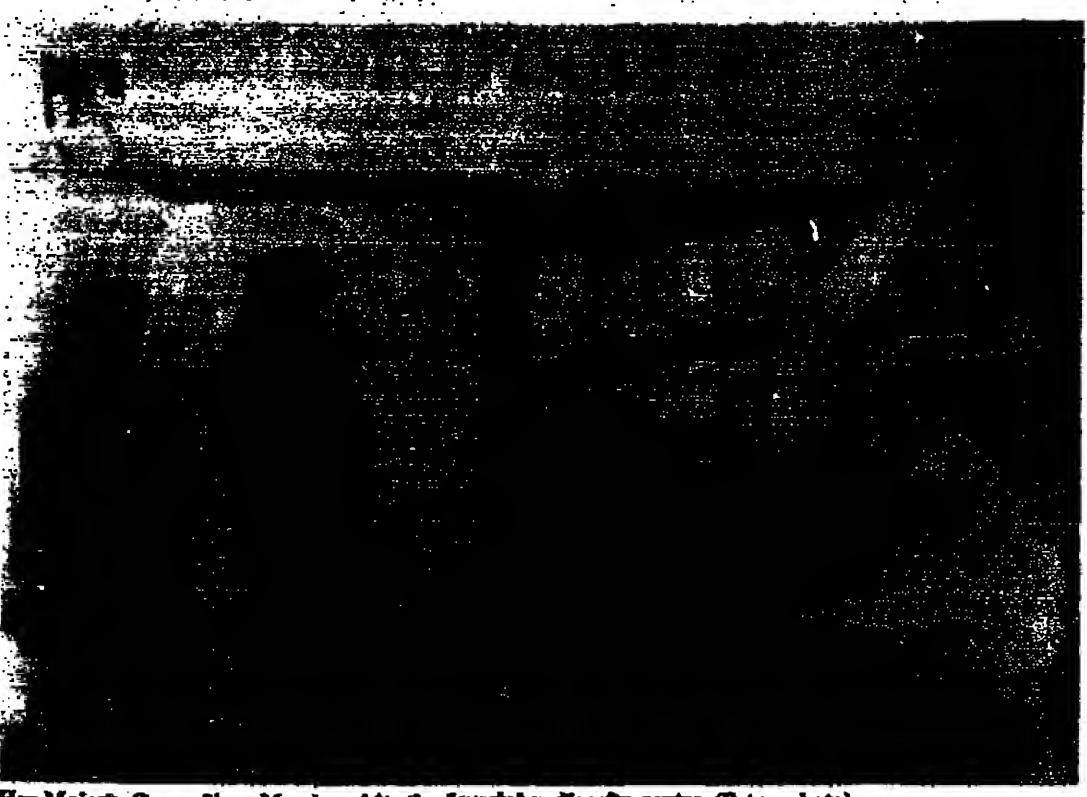
querading as an Italian MARKET PRICES Uppersower price in file per kg. Apple ...... 420 / 380 Banama (Mukammar) ..... 400 / 350 Carrot ..... 200 / 150 Dates ..... 500 / 400 Lemon 200 / 150

Marrow (large) 80 / 50

Marrow (small) 130 / 100

Onion (dry) 140 / 180 Onion (green) ...... 200 / 150 





Her Majesty Queen Noor Monday visits the Jerush handleralts centre (Petra photo)

# Jerash crafts centre makes major strides

JERASH (J.T.) - Her Majesty Queen Noor Monday expressed pride in and appreciation of the achievements made by the Turath Handicraft Centre in Jerash and voiced hope that it would serve as model for other centres in developing future projects that aim at advancing society and in-

The Queen made the statement during a visit she made to the centre where she was briefed on its progress over the past 15

creasing family income.

The centre now employs 52 local women, up from 18 at the beginning of 1989.

The staff are involved in producing traditional handicrafts, which were sold for an average of ID 4,000 a month, up from ID 1,000 a month during the pre-

The centre was initiated by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation's (NHF) National Handicrafts De-

velopment Project in cooperation with local and international voluntary organisations as part of as overall effort to develop the country's traditional crafts.

NHF invited two bighly experienced textile designers in November 1988 to help develop new designs for weaving and embroidcry, and initiated a four-week training course last August for supervisors in sewing workshops several voluntary organisations, according to a NHP press

During her visit, the Queen discussed prospects for the transformation of Jordan's bandicrafts industry from a charitable to a viable business-oriented en-CERVOUR.

. The Jerash Ladies Benevolent Society now runs the centre, which was established nearly two years ago, and employs local women on the production line, the bulletin said. It said that

because the women became more productive and began working additional hours, their take-home pay had more than tripled over the past months.

The bulletin said the NHF would continue to create new designs and products and procure orders from international buyers on behalf of local producers thanks to its newly-founded Jordan Design and Trade Centre.

Queen Noor toured the centre's units and inspected sections specialising in embroidery, cutting and assembly, weaving and

Taking part in discussions over the future of the ways to develop the centre were representatives of the Jerash Ladies Benevolent Society, the Catholic Relief Service, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and the NHF.

## Illiterates urged to join adult programmes

Education and Higher Education Mohammad Hamdan Monday called on all littlerate cities in the cities of the Ministrate Education Jordan to join the literacy and tion's department in charge of adult education centres in the providing adult education, as Kingdom and receive education free of charge. The minister also thanked the United Nations Eduestional Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) for its assistance to Jordan in the course of eradicating illiteracy and voiced appreciation to teachers at the literacy centres for their efforts.

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In a statement given to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, on the anniversary of the Arab day for the eradication of illiteracy, Hamdan said: "This year, the anniversary is of special importance since 1990 was declared by the United Nations as a year for the eradication of illiteracy and for international cooperation to provide education for all."

He said that illiteracy was "a social danger" and "eradicating this danger is a national responsibility so that the country can go

AMMAN (I.T.) - Migittee of a shead with comprehensive plans for development."

> Petra quoted Ahmad Ai Sous, saying that the ministry through its 502 adult education centres was striving to eliminate illiteracy century in response to a general call made by the United Nations.

He said the illiteracy rate in the Kingdom, which now stands at 20 per cent, could be reduced to at least 10 per cent in the year 2000. Sous said that a total of 8,690 male and female adult students attend the literacy centres in the Kingdom on a regular basis.

Last November a preparatory meeting was held in Amman in preparation for a world conference on education for all achedaled to be held in Thailand in March 1990.

The preparatory meeting, which was organised by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), focused attention on the need to provide basic educa-



Mohamund Hamdan

tion to all children. Delegates from 18 Arab countries taking part in the preparatory meeting endorsed a proposal to be submitted to the Thailand conference on the right of people under occupation to basic education. It said that education should be free for all people in the elementary stage without any interference by the occupation authorities which could impede the educational process through school closures. interference with the curricula and disruption of teachers' work.

## 6, 500 students miss their exams

6.500 students were absent from one or more examinations during the tawjihi general examination taken by Jordanian students this month, according to Dr. Mohammad Obeidat, director of the Examinations and Evaluation Department at the Ministry of Education.

Obeidat said, from the 6,500. absentees, 1,252 students did not take the Arabic examination, while 192 failed to show up for the physics exam and 210 did not take the biology exam. Obcidat said contrary to student complaints appearing in the local press about the nature of ques-

The students had said that more time was needed to answer question in various subjects particularly physics and mathematics.

Obeidat said that all complaints and suggestions have been taken into consideration and ministry specialists will examine each case before making decisions. Obeidst said he expected The second of the second contractions taken

# Drilling to start soon at Risheh 18

AMMAN (Petra) --- The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources will soon start drilling gas well number 18 at the Al Risheh district near the border with Iraq, where all indications point to the presence of a vast deposit of natural gas that could be used for generating electricity, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Thabet Al Taher said Monday.

Natural gas is currently being exploited in large quantities from Risbeh well numbers three, six and 16. The underground gas reserves in the area are estimated at 400 billion cubic feet, the minister said in a briefing during a visit to the ministry by Prime Minister Mudar Badran.

series of inspection visits by Badran to government departments. Taher noted that 15 per cent of the total electricity needs of the Kingdom were being met through power generated by gas turbine units installed at Al Risheh. This proportion is expected to rise to 20 per cent once two additional gas turbine units

have been moved from a location

south of Amman to the Risheh

district in the coming months, the

The visit marks the first in a

minister said. He said once the project has of light grade oil at Al Sarhan been completed the Kingdom area, and exploration operations would be saving up to \$10 million will continue this year not only at worth of energy fuel annually. Al Sarhan but also south and west other Arab countries in energy



plans to employ natural gas in local industries and petrochemicplants. Taher said.

The minister told Badran that the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) was pursuing efforts to increase the country's oil production from Hamzeh one, 12 and 14 wells which altogether have so far produced half a million barrels of oil that was refined at the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company near Zarca.

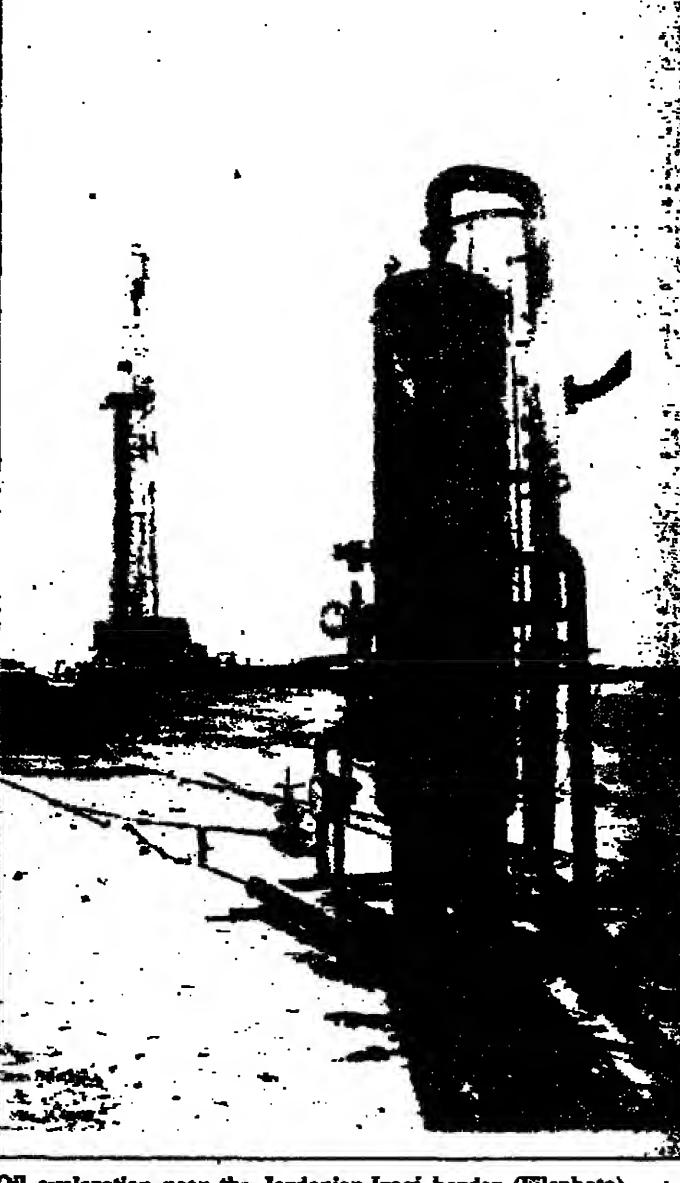
Furthermore, the ministry has of the Risheh district, Taher said. fields.

He said that several foreign companies were prospecting for oil in Al Azraq, the Dead Sea, Wait Araba, the northern Jordan Valley, and Al Jafer region under NRA supervision. He referred in particular to the NRA's agree-ments with the Japanese, Austrian and Canadian oil companies to prospect for oil at Wadi Sarhan and noted that NRA was maintaining close cooperation with the Iraqi Ministry of Oil and Mineral Resources to belp in oil-prospecting operations in Jordan. Taher briefed the prime minis-

ter on Jordan's phosphate, potash and cement deposits, which, he said, are being given full atten-tion by the ministry and the

Taher said that the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) was involved in a project for linking the national grid with that of Egypt, He said that the project would be extended to include Iraq, Syria and Turkey.

Following his meetings and tours of the ministry's sections, the prime minister said that his visit was part of a series of tours he intends to make to various NRA teams have found signs departments. Badran voiced his appreciation of the ministry's efforts in electricity, natural resources and cooperation with



Oil exploration near the Jordanian-Iraqi border (Filephoto)

# ACC parliamentarians to meet in Baghdad

By Suhair Obeidat Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Elected parliamentary committees from the four members of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) - Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen - are to hold their first general meeting in Baghdad by the end of this month, the speaker of the Iraqi national assembly said Monday.

Sasdi Mahdi Saleh, in a statement upon his departure from Amman for Cairo after a two-day visit, said he and his

accompanying delegation discussed with the speakers of both the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament of Jordan "the process of electing the parliamentary committees which will form the nucleus of the future ACC parliament, and ways of developing cooperation in parliamentary

members of the Lower House to the ACC parliamentary committee, which also includes the House Speaker and five other members of the Upper House. Similar panels have

Jordan Saturday elected 10

been elected by the other three ACC countries. According to Mohammad

Abu Fares, a deputy and a member of the committee, the meetings are to be held biannually in rotation in the capitals of the ACC countries. "The meetings will be presided by the speaker of parliament of the host country," he explained.

A counsellor in the Egyptian embassy here in Amman, Naji Al Ghatrefy, told the Jordan Times that Egypt's shoura (consultative) council elected

its delegation two weeks ago. The North Yemeni ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, Ali Abdullah Abu Lohoom, said the country's delegation was elected late November.

"I believe that the joint parliament will be concerned with discussing issues of legislative nature, so as to accomplish a comprehensive unity among the four countries," he said.

The idea of a joint ACC parliament was first revealed by His Majesty King Hussein October 1989 in a nationwide address when he said that the four countries were in he process of forming a joint committee, which "will serve as a constituent framework for grouping the four countries' parliament to pave the way for sound economic integration and collective Arab action."

It is believed that the jo at committee will be entrus; td with the task of coordinating the four ACC countries' position on international parliamentary affairs and adopt a common strategy as a bloc in dealing with other parliaments.

## Zaben vews to solve problem of dentists

Minister Mohammad Addoub Al Zaben said Monday that the Ministry of Health will try with all possible means to find solutions for the problem of unemployed Jordanian dentists and improve the conditions of those employed in health centres.

Speaking at a swearing-in ceremony of new dentists who joined the Jordan Dentists Association (JDA), Zaben said that Jordan's health centres had a total of 135 dental clinics, employing Jordanian dentists.

The JDA president outlined to

AMMAN (Petra) — Health the minister the various difficulties encountered by the association and urged the Ministry of Health to raise the salaries of dentists employed by the government in view of the soaring cost of living in the country.

> He also urged the Ministry of Health to have the JDA represented at the Higher Council for Health and the Jordan medical and pharmacists associations.

The minister said that he was always ready to discuss with the JDA and the dentists various proposals and ways of solving



Mohammad Zaben

## Conference opens on Euro-Arab media ties

round table conference on the media and cooperation in in field between the Arab World and Europe will open here velopments in the Arab World. Monday.

The conference participants represent the media and information services in the Federal Republic of Germany and the Arab News Agencies Federation, according to an announcement by the Ministry of Information.

The announcement said Minister of Information Ibrhaim Izzeddin will open the meetings, which will discuss the flow of news from

AMMAN (J.T.) — A three-day the Arab World to West Germany and vice versa, and means of assisting ... news agonoles to convey a proper message on de-

> Three working papers from West Germany, he Arab his Agencies Federation and the Egyptian Middle East News Agency will be reviewed by the participants, according to the announcement.

It said the participants, who

include directors of news agencies, will tour a number of places of interest in Jordan and meetwith Jordanian officials

## Subscribers owe millions to WAJ

AMMAN (J.T.) - The Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) says subscribers to water supplies in Jordan owe JD 10.759 million to the authority, which hopes to collect the amount during 1990. A report in Al Ra'i Arabic daily said that the dues calculated at the end of the past year are for water consumption of water sup-

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and

the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed

EXHIBITIONS

An exhibition entitled "They chose 30 poets" at the French

An art exhibition by Irish artist Consi McIntyre at the British

\* A German film estitled "Aguirre, the wrath of God", Arabic

A French film entitled "Le sucre" at the French Cultural

A programme entitled "Diet and Cancer preservation" at the

subtitled, at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation - 7:00 p.m.

time and place with the concerned institutions.

plies in 1989 and earlier. According to the report, subscribers in Amman, including pri-

Cultural Centre.

Centre - \$:00 p.m.

Council.

vate households, government departments and other organisations, account for 42.7 per cent of the total amount, Irbid 13.7 per cent, Aqaba 9.3 per cent, Zarqa 8.6 per cent and Mafraq seven

It said that government departments and organisations in Jordan had does totalling JD 2.474 million or nearly 36.9 per cent of the total amounts owed to WAJ.

AMMAN (J.T.) — More than

tions, all questions were suitable for tawjihi students.

by more than 60,000 students to

### NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

KING CONGRATULATES SWISS LEADER: His Majesty King Hussein Monday cabled congratulations to President of the Swiss Confederation Amold Koller on the occasion of his assumption of office. The King wished the president good health and the Swiss people progress and prosperity (Petra).

BADRAN PLEDGES COOPERATION: Prime Minister Mudar Badran said that his government pledges to cooperate with the legislative authority to build the homeland and serve the nation. During a meeting Monday with delegations representing the tribes of Zu'bi, Suradiya, Ajarmeh, and Khalayleh, the prime minister asked delegation members to convey his greetings to Jordanians living in their areas

ENVOY MEETS KLIBI: Jordan's Ambassador to Tunis and permanent representative to the Arab League Sat'an Al Hassan Monday met with Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi. Their discussions dealt with several issues related to joint Arab action, the outcome of the Euro-Arab ministerial meeting which was convened recently in Paris, and arrangements related to convening a Euro-Arab cultural seminar in Amman later this year. Hassan also met with Tunisian Minister of National Economic Al Munsif Bal'id. They reviewed means of developing bilateral relations and implementing programmes of cooperation in the fields of economy, culture, information, and tourism under an accord signed recently in Amman. They also exchanged views about means to ensure success for Tunisian and Jordanian trade fairs to be held in Tunis and Amman as well as arrangements related to holding the fifth Jordanian exhibition in Tunis in May

QATANANI BRIEFS U.S. GROUP: A team representing the World Affairs Council in the United States Monday visited the Foreign Ministry's Department of Palestinian Affairs and met with its director, Ahmad Qatanani, to discuss Middle East issues. Qatanani reviewed the development of the department, which supervises the affairs of the Palestinians living in Jordan and the assistance provided through the department from the Jordanian government to Palestinians living in the occupied Arab territories. Oatanani also briefed the delegation on Jordan's help to the residents of refugee camps in the Kingdom in cooperation with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) (Petra).

**DEPUTIES BRIEFED ON UDD:** Minister of Public Works and Housing Abdul Ra'uf Rawabdeh explained the development of the Urban Development Department (UDD), its philosophy and future plans. During a meeting with several Lower House of Parliament members Monday, Rawabdeh explained UDD's endeavours to develop urban areas overcrowded with people. UDD Director Dr. Hisham Zagha highlighted technical matters related to UDD projects. The discussions also dealt with absent to develop-UDD activities and to enable people to benefit from its services.

## Plans under way for solar energy meeting in November

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) is making preparations for convening the fourth Arab International Solar Energy Conference in Amman in November of this year, and expects more than 100 specialists to take part in the meetings, according to Khaled Touqan, an RSS researcher and rapporteur for the conference.

Tougan said in a statement to the Jordan Times that the conference, which is expected to take place between Nov. 18 and 23 is being organised in cooperation

with the Jordan Engineers Asso-The meetings offer a chance for

the participants to exchange views and information in the fields of solar radiation, wind energy, thermal applications. bioconversion, passive solar architecture, heating and cooling and hydrogen production among other areas, Tougan said.

He said the RSS welcomes Arab and international scientists and researchers to take part in the conference which will review

several working papers. Researchers are welcome to send in English, abstracts of prospective technical papers on topics to be taken up by the conference, Tougan added.

According to Tougan, the conference will include a plenary lecture and sessions for presenta-. tion of research work with special sessions to be devoted to national

He said that at least 15 Arab and international lectureres will be invited to address the confer-

that any military intervention will

### Diplomats display support for Hrawi

(Continued from page 1)

can favoured dialogue to resolve the crisis between Hrawi and Aoun but the general later told cheering supporters "there is no room for dialogue.

Navarro did not mention Aoun by name but said the nuncio will work for a "sincere and loyal dialogue among all parties, taking into account above all those in a only bring more suffering and weak position who fear for the make it more difficult to resolve.

The papal spokesman added



The papal nancio, Pablo Pvente, reviews, with a

senior Lebanese officer, troops in west Beirut

before presenting his credentials to President Files Hrawi this week

be released early next mouth.

## Jordan Times

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times Advertising Department. .

### Support the investors

NOTHING IS more pleasing and comforting to the eye than to see new houses constructed all over the country, apartment building sprouting the landscapes of urban areas in the country or better still new factories or business enterprises emerging in spite of all the talk of doom and gloom about the Jordanian economy. There is no better way to give one's country a vote of confidence than to invest for the future in his own country through the construction of homes and establishments or starting new ventures and projects. And judging by the number of constructions and new businesses that are mushrooming everywhere these days, it is a safe bet that the people of Jordan have renewed their faith and confidence in the ability of Jordan to emerge triumphant over its recent economic woes and political challenges.

The Kingdom in turn owes such true nationals and entrepreneurs some meaningful recognition and encouragement. Most of all soft credit needs to be extended to them in view of the fact that their investments generate much needed incomes to the country; and perhaps more important they instill a sense of rejuvenated confidence in the future of the country and its progress and stability. Another way to reward all of Jordanian builders, who engage in making additional confidence-building blocs in the fabrics of the Jordanian economy and politics, is to offer them some kind of tax haven or place them in a lower tax bracket that could serve as some kind of encouragement for them and an inducement for other Jordanians who have yet to make the ultimate patriotic decision of translating their pious words of allegiance into actions by doing the same. What better way is there for any citizen to show his sense of belonging to the country than to make his personal future more tangibly and concretely linked and associated with the future of his country. That would be the most operational way of sifting real nationalists from transitory ones who may still view the country as some kind of temporary haven for their livelihood and belonging. And that is also the best way to strengthen the Kingdom from within and make its steadfastness against the various conspiracies and designs being entertained by the enemies of the Arab World.

### ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily Monday said that His Majesty King Hussein's visit to Baghdad and his talks with the Iraqi leader was another chance for the Jordanian and Iraqi leaderships to consolidate their efforts to boost and promote the standing of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC). Consultations and coordination between Arab leaders are needed at this moment when the world is witnessing deep changes and political upheavals everywhere, said the paper. The King went to Baghdad also to share with the Iraqi people and armed forces the celebrations marking Iraqi Army Day and to witness the weaponry acquired by Iraq to repel aggression from any source, the paper said. The King's visit, the paper continued, was a true demonstration of Jordan's solidarity with the Iraqi people, and a show of support for Iraq's endeavours not only to achieve peace with its Iranian neighbour, but also to build up its military might that can deal with any external aggression and protect Arab soil. The range of rockets and tanks displayed by Iraq in the parade the paper added, should be a source of pride for the Arab masses everywhere; and should give birth to a new confidence in the Arab nation's capability to deter aggression and to achieve peace.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily Monday hails the stand of the opposition in the Jordanian Parliament, and says that those who cast a negative vote in the vote of confidence session proved to be true to the electorate and to themselves. Fahd Rimawi notes that those deputies have broken the barrier of fear; and did not compromise where others did, and aired their views quite frankly and openly explaining their opposition to the present government. In return, the prime minister's stand was strengthened by the presence of a group of opposition in Parliament, since this group will serve as a watchdog on government's performance and this can only urge Badran's administration to follow the course it had set itself to pursue in its policy statement to the Lower House, Rimawi notes. The writer believes that it is better for any government to start off with a modest majority in Parliament supporting its policies, so that it can build on such a base and attain greater power through its actions and its commitments to the plan and policy it had committed itself to carry out. Above all, Rimawi notes, the presence of opposition in Parliament proves the true democratic face of the country and bears indications of a brighter future for parliamentary life.

Sawt Al Shaah daily on Monday described Israel's border provocations as part of its policy to escalate tension in the region and to pave the way for another aggression on Jordan. The paper said that Israel believes that by doing so it can escape from the on-going pressure on its armed forces brought about by the continuing intifada. It said that Jordan can never succumb to intimidation and will never compromise its firm stand in support of the Palestinian people who are waging an uprising for freedom. The paper reiterated Jordan's firm backing for the PLO which is seeking to end Israel's occupation of Arab territories and to establish an independent Palestinian state on Palestinian soil. It said that Israel is trying to escape world public pressure on Zionism to recognise the rights of the Palestinian people and is. trying to shift world public attention to other issues of its own creation, and other side questions that can not justify its occupation of Arab land.

# After the revolution, Romanians face hard decisions

By Ian McKenzie

BUCHAREST — After the first euphoric days of revolution, Romanians face the hard realities of mapping the future of a country starved and debilitated by years of terror and repression.

The popular uprising that over-threw Communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu last month left the country dizzy with joy but struggling to fill the power vacuum as the old political order collapsed.

The new sense of freedom is reflected in the faces of people on the streets following the ousting and Christmas Day execution of Ceausescu and his wife Elena.

"What was so frightening was the look of grey hopelessness and despair in people's faces," a young Romanian woman said of the Ceausescu years.

Railway worker Mircea Marpozan, the 45-year-old father of two young daughters, said that before the revolution he had felt despised as a Romanian when he travelled outside his country.

"The greatest thing is not to be ashamed any more, to be able to hold up my head," he said of the new cra.

But the National Salvation Front that took power after Ceausescu was ousted is under pressure to move the country quickly along the road to political democracy and economic reform.

Despite the collapse and disappearance of the old Communist Party, discredited as the instrument of Ceausescu's power enforced through the Securitate secret police, the front has also been criticised for retaining former Communists in government

Students who were in the front rank of fighting that toppled the dead dictator called a protest rally Sunday to demand the purge of former Communists and collaborators.

"We are angry because the old Communists are still in power but they are using a different name. Nothing has changed," said Radu, a 21-year-old student at Bucharest Polytechnic at the weekend.

last week and dismissed Deputy **Economics Minister Constantin** Bostina for having been too closely associated with

The front bowed to pressure

The front has sought to calm doubts expressed by students and intellectuals over its commitment. to democracy by pledging to hold free elections by April — though some aspiring politicians have criticised this as too soon to permit proper political organisation.

Political groups have until the end of this week to register their names and policies. Several parties have registered so far, including the National Peasants' Party and an ecological Green Party.

The front has said some of its 151 members would seek election to parliament although it would not itself constitute a political

Some political observers say the front, as the best known institution around the country, will win a wide following outside



"A lot of people see in the Salvation Front their liberators." commented a Romanian jour-

Unless other political groups manage to organise quickly in the provinces, the real political battle expected to be waged in Bucharest, with 2.3 million of

Romania's 23 million population. The best-placed political party so far appears to be the National Peasants' Party, which also describes itself as a Social Democratic Party and has a traditional base among workers as well as peasants. It dates back to the 1930s but lay dormant under Communist rule since 1946.

# Claimant to Albanian throne plans uprising

ing Italy.

By William Maclean Reuter

JOHANNESBURG — From a heavily-guarded home hidden in the African bush, an uncrowned king plots the downfall of Eastern Europe's most hardline Communist rulers.

A fax machine hums into life, and the tall, gaunt figure of the claimant to the throne of Albania, Leka I, rises eagerly from his desk to read the latest in a growing flood of press clippings and messages from a world wide network of supporters.

The South African-based Leka, son of Albania's late King Zog, says reforms sweeping Eastern Europe have made his people ripe for democracy.

"You can't keep people down for ever and ever," the softspoken exile told Reuters and the The bespectacled 50-year-old

Leka spoke in a wood-panelled office draped with fiags and crammed with mementos from his homeland, including a photograph of his father, overthrown by invading German and Italian troops in 1939.

Exiled from his country when he was only two days old, Leka has lived in Europe, Egypt and Africa. He works as a commodities trader with interests in the Middle East and Asia. Laka, his Australian wife

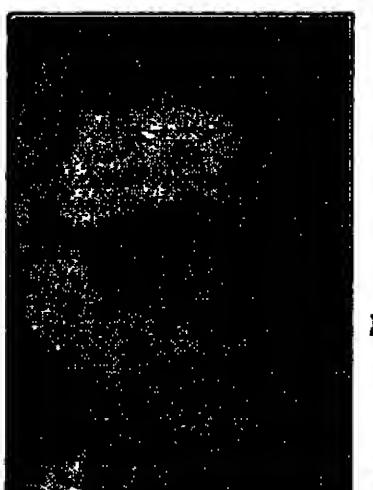
Susen and their South Africanborn son Anwar have lived in the white-ruled republic for almost 10 Two tough-looking private

South African security guards armed with pistols hovered near Leka, who wants to rule his kingdom but says he would work in any capacity to bring down Eastern Europe's last remaining Stalinist rulers.

"I see my role as a catalyst," he

likes his leader to say 'follow stralia to drum up support for a me'...I must give my people encouragement, tell them there are forces working for their libera-

In the next few weeks he plans a world tour to visit hundreds of thousands of Albanian emigres in



"The Albanian is someone who North America, Europe and Aucampaign to overthrow the Communists who seized power at the end of World War II.

He also plans to broadcast radio messages to Albania's three million population to prepare an

Leka said short wave radios were banned but people living near the borders or near the coast could pick up foreign radio stations. News of December's dramatic changes in Eastern Europe would seep into the country this month and next, he said. Albania is situated between Greece and Yugoslavia and has a

Leka declined to identify the main groups who support him but said an uprising "would rest primarily with the armed forces and the Sigurimi (secret police)."

coastline on the Adriatic Sea fac-

"The populace and the military will eventually join hands, but that does take a bit of coordinating."

In a New Year message he is sending into Albania through couriers from neighbouring countries such as Greece he promised to act as guarantor of a national referendum in which Albanians could choose the form of government they wanted.

Asked what kind of society he preferred, he replied a free enterprise economy combined with a

He acknowledged conditions had improved "slightly" in his country under Communism. The average Albanian had a kilo of meat a week whereas 40 years ago it was once a month. "But the fact that you might be

woken up at any moment in your

house just for having said your

system of state welfare.

prayers in an officially atheist state, I don't know how much of an improvement that is." Leka was educated in Egypt and at Britain's Sandhurst Military Academy. A Muslim, he has

influential friends in the Middle

East including the Saudi Arabian

royal family and the family of the late shah of Iran. His godfather was Saudi Arabia's late King Faisal, who helped

him start in business. Leka says he speaks eight languages including Arabic.

He says a free Albania would have good relations with Arab countries but in time might be

ready to recognise Israel. Relations with neighbour Yugoslavia would depend on the

issue of Yugoslavia's autonomous

province of Kosovo, a hotbed of tension between the region's 1.7 million ethnic Albanians and 200.000 Serbs. "I would like to see a decision

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a problem exists...once that happens we can sit down and discuss the problem of reunification," he He wanted to keep Albania's good relationship with Italy and

by the Yugoslav government that

saw Greece as a natural ally. About the Soviet Union and China: "I don't have preconceived ideas. I'm neither for nor against." Leka's mother, former Queen Geraldine, is to move shortly

from her home in Spain to his rambling ranch-style house at the end of a dirt road in isolated scrubland on plains north of Johannesburg.

An atmosphere of security nangs over the property, which is patrolled by five ferocious boxer dogs. Leka says he wears a pistol on the occasions when his security guards are away. A pump-action shotgun hangs

on a frame beside his desk.

## Vietnamese Communists, eyeing East Europe, urge reforms

By Jeremy Wagstaff

HANOI — Intellectuals and Communist Party ideologues in Vietnam are urging their party to respond to political upheavals in Eastern Europe by relaxing its 45-year grip on power.

In interviews with Reuters Sunday, these people said the Communist Party must respond to a crisis in Soviet-led socialism by giving ground, even to the extent of allowing some degree of multiparty democracy.

Communist leaders in Hanoi have been surprised and confused by breathtaking political changes among Vietnam's East European allies and are afraid they might

Thailand

Cambodia

upset the country's own socialist

"The constitution says the ideal future is Communism," said senior journalist Nguyen Van Dang. "Parties which form and oppose this are illegal...But if the people want to change this they

Impoverished Vietnam has been isolated diplomatically and economically from the West since its 1978 invasion of Cambodia and has relied almost exclusively on Soviet and East European support to survive.

With the lightning collapse of Communism in Eastern Europe. Vietnam's ageing leaders are faced with the option of either tightening their hold on power in the midst of growing internal

Da Nang

China

**Red River** 

Ho Chi Minh

City

Mekong

Delta

Laos

dissent or introducing Sovietstyle democratic reforms, officials

"We must try to get out of this impasse to resolve this political economic and financial crisis. said Bui Tin, deputy editor of the party daily newspaper Nhan Dan.

There have been no echoes in Vietnam of street demonstrations which have shaken cities in Eastern Europe, but young people are getting restless for change. Hanoi has recently allowed li-

mited freedom of expression in the media and parliament, but officials said a party plenum due soon would embrace significant changes and may revise a decision made in August which ruled out political pluralism.

Vietnam greeted the first signs of change in Poland last August with a barrage of condemnation, but has now apologised to the new Solidarity-led government and congratulated new non-Communist leaders in Eastern Europe, officials said.

They said changes in Eastern Europe did not indicate Communism was in its death throes, but that Communist parties had to be democratic to survive. "Any government which goes against wishes of the working

people will be overthrown," said Duong Xuan Nam, deputy editor of the youth newspaper Tien Phong. He ruled out the possibility of mass protest in Vietnam but said

students had reacted by calling for faster liberalisation, which he said would be reflected in the next party congress. "I expect the next congress of the Vietnamese Communist Party

will bring big changes, not least in personnel," he said. Officials have said party leader Nguyen Van Linh, plagued by

illness since taking over in 1986, would resign in the next few months. Intellectuals said there was an urgent need to make the party,

which has ruled the North since

1954 and the whole country since

1975, more acconstable. "The level of democracy in our | National Peasants party appeal-

high," said Nguyen Van Dang, who is deputy chief editor of the party's theoretical monthly Tap Ch Con San. "This is what we

have to overcome." With the collapse of Communism in Eastern Europe, Vietnam has lost the unquestioning political solidarity of more than half its allies, diplomats said. Vietnamese officials admitted this was more serious than the economic "To be frank, with Eastern European countries we have been

having an export surplus," said assistant Foreign Minister Vu Khoan. "If Eastern European" countries reduce their exports to Vietnam there's not much of a problem."

Vietnamese officials said the

next party congress, which they said probably would be held next year, would be vital in shaping the country's future. Most party ideologues are con-

fident Vietnam will stay socialist

whatever happens to its Euro-

pean allies.

The idea of Communism will win over in the long run," said

# East Europe edges towards free elections

By Ian Mackenzie

VIENNA — The nations of Eastern Europe, throwing off the shackles of Communist dictatorship, are edging towards democracy with free elections promised this year. The dominant role of the Com-

munist Party has been rejected and new political parties are springing up after a revolutionary whirlwind swept away old But some Western diplomats

warn that East European leaders also face dangerous pressures from people impatient and frustrated at the speed of political reform and economic advance-Calling for a return to morality

president and long-time dissident, Vaciav Havel, said in a New Year's address: "The worst thing is that we live in a contaminated moral environment ... because we became used

in politics, Czechoslovakia's new

to saying something different from what we thought." "We became used to the totalitarian system and ... thus helped

to perpetuate it." Romania, the only country where bloodshed accompanied revolutionary change, took its first steps Monday towards pluralistic democracy with the The National Salvation Front,

a loose coalition of intellectuals, soldiers and politicians that has ruled Romania since the overthrow last month of Communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu, has promised free elections by April. Multiparty elections are also due in the first half of the year in Bulgaria, Hungary, Czechoslova-

kia and East Germany. Elections were held in Poland last year. A committee member of Romania's National Peasants Party, Livin Petrina, expressed confidence in the future at a Bucharest news conference.

"Our party won 78 per cent of

the vote in the last free elections

staged in Romania 43 years ago," be said. "We feel we have every chance. The people are with us." He stressed the need for a return to moral values after 24 years of brutal rule during which the Ceauseson family lived in immense luxury while the people faced starvation.

"The worst thing here was the moral miasma in which we lived," he said. "We were becoming barbarians. We want to re-establish Christian values, honesty, respect for the truth..."

A former leader of the Romanian Communist Party, Silvin Bucan, who turned against Ceausescu, said in a Bucharest television interview Monday that the party had no future and party and in our society is not ing for support from farmers and should go into liquidation.

Bulgaria's Communist leaders, hoping for peaceful change, pledged the people would "taste the fruits of freedom" in 1990.

The Bulgarian Communist Party, which has pledged to follow the lead of other Eastern European countries by renouncing its dominant role, was expected to meet opposition groups to discuss ways to speed up democratic re-Not all opponents of Commun-

ist rule want quick elections. In both Romania and Bulgaria opposition figures have said the 4 current voting deadlines do not give enough time for political groups to organise after more than 40 years of dictatorship. Eastern Europe faces daunting political and economic problems.

East German leaders, all too aware of the lure of the West, must try to persuade their people to stay and help build their economy for a better future. In Warsaw, Poles celebrated the New Year with revelry un-

seen since the end of World War II, but draconian price increases will hit them hard when shops Time has stood still in one

staunch Marxist-Lemnist state, however. Ramiz Alia, leader of tiny Albania, told his people in a New Year message the winds of East Enropean reform would not sweep through their country.

"They cannot succeed in doing us harm," he said, ---

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# Fashions from the province

CAIRO -- Muscum or fashion house? One hesitates for a few minutes when eatering Shahira Mehrez's shop in Cairo. Straight out of an orientalist painting of the 19th century when Western artists strived to depict the marie of Arab interiors and landscapes. it feels like a different world.

As soft lighting pierces the carved-wood shutters that adom the windows, fabrics, potteries, "hubbly bubbly" water pipes, copper ware, miniatures and furniture of inlaid mother-ofpearl set the tone. Deep in a corner a majestic baroque sofa saved from an uncertain fate in an obscure shop in Alexandria beckons to let the visitor look comfortably at precious fabrics cascading over the side of a large wooden chest. Further in, the bulb of a glass distiller used to make rose water glows softly.

These rooms, three floors up in the Dokki area of Cairo, are the domain of Mehrez, who has dedicated the past two decades to collecting, preserving and producing clothes, ornaments and objects which used to be part of daily life in rural Egypt.

Mehrez, now in her early forties, is away but work continues in the shop where she brought together tributes to Egypt's past. Her associate is Nour Hakim, 36, originally from Lebanon, who also collects traditional arts and crafts and who has worked with Mehrez for a number of years. Says Hakim: "Shahira was born into a family of landowners in the Nile Delta. Delta, and since her childhood. she was fascinated by the clothes worn by the peasants in the fields or at home. One day she felt like wearing one of these dresses made of shimmening fabric worn by country women. She discovered that the pattern is really simple, yet very flattering to the female figure: it makes most women look slim and gives them a sort of majestic air, particularly when they walk."

Hakim explains that Mehrez later became interested in the traditional garb worn by men all over Egypt. To the surprise of the local peasant folk, she would go and brouse around in the markets and fairs all over the Delta area,

in the cases of the western desert, in Upper Egypt and in Nubia. This, says Hakim, is how Mehrez

discovered that the cut of women's diseases is essentially the same all over the country: one piece of farbic reaching down almost to the ankles with a sounded piece added on the chest, and a round collar and sleeves that puff at the wrist. From north to south, the pattern is the same, except for one detail: the breast piece and trimmings around it. The embroideries of the breast piece are what distinguishes a dress from Gizz, near Cairo, to that wom by women in the desert cases of Siwa or the town of Assist in Central Egypt.

To Mebrez, the dresses stand a symbol of the rural Egypt that is so often ignored by city people and tourists. She began collecting them, and found out about a style that local women call "embire." It occurred to her that not only the word but also the style came from the French word "Empire," which is often used to describe a type of highwaisted dresses with puffy sieeves wom during the reign of Napoicon I, or Napoleon III.

It appears that when France's Empress Engenie inaugurated the Sucr Canal in 1869, she arrived with a whole retime of French ladies who caused a revolution in Egyptian fashions that affected even sural areas. Prints and drawings from the first half of the 19th century, before the Empress' visit to Egypt, show that women used to wear simpler garments that looked like a sort of sack, often made of striped fabric with straight sleeves that were not gathered at the wrist.

In 1968, Mehrez set up a work-

shop in Cairo where she started producing not only women's dresses from old patterns, but also traditional garments for men. It was an immediate hit and in the early 70s, men and women alike were going to cocktail parties in Rome, Paris, New York and Rio de Janeiro wearing the Egyptian peasant's dress with wide sleeves and flowing fabric. Also hugely successful were the dresses made ih the style worn by the bedown women of the Sinai desert in Eastern Egypt, with thousands of



provides outlets for rural craftsmen.

sewn on the front and intricate. colourful cross-stitch embroidery. The high cost of these dresses did seem to not deter the fashionconscious who passed through

After opening three shops in Cairo where she also sold jewellery and artifacts, Mebrez "was caught up in the whirl of her own success," says Zobeida Nagui, 51. a cousin who has become an associate and also helps out at the Dokki store. With a background in Islamic Art and architecture. "she hadn't expected such a success (in the fashion world) and it gave a new direction to her life. She managed to collect and save a great many objects, costumes, pieces of furniture and sculptured

disappeared for ever." Adds Hakim: "During her travels. Mehrez discovered the beauty of what are usually consi-

wood that might otherwise have

dered humble, ordinary objects. Along with traditional jewellery from Nubia or Siwa, she picked up all sorts of artifacts like baskets from the oasis, embroideries from El Arish (on the northern Mediterranean coast of Sinai) or carpets made in the desert. She developed a passion for what she calls popular art and decided she wanted people to learn about it, appreciate it and use it in their

Pursuing her goal Mehrez decided to create a small folklore museum to try to preserve some objects that are abandoned. "The life of the Egyptian peasant has changed a great deal in the modern age," Hakim notes. "Women who had used solid copper pans like their mothers and grandmothers trade them for easy-toclean aluminum; young women who come up to the cities to find work soon give up their traditional dress for Western-style garments... Nubian women whose pride had always been their heavy silver jewellery now prefer gold because it is worth more, but it cannot be used to make the traditional style of jewellery."

In the course of her travels, Mehrez met Michel Pastor and his wife Evelyne, a couple from Switzerland who have been living

for years in the desert on the edge of the large oasis some 120 kilometres west of Cairo called Fayoum. They have become famous in Cairo for the pottery they make. Their meeting with Mehrez was the beginning of a strong friendship that brought together both the old and the new, the East with the West. Michel Pastor designed the interior of Mehrez' folklore museum which is due to open soon, in a space adjacent to her Dokki shop. Her busy schedule did not stop

the new to create fashionable clothing.

Mehrez from launching yet another project: encouraging the local artisans to keep on producing by providing an outlet for their crafts. When in 1982 the

Sinai desert, which they had occupied since 1967, Mehrez went up to the northern town of El Arish and re-organised an embroidery workshop where young women use centuries-old techniques. The style can be seen on the traditional costumes of the women of the Sinai: intricate geometric designs embroidered in cross-stitch on a black background in which red dominates over orange and white interpersed with a little green and

Israeli forces pulled out of the

Looking at Egypt's rural traditions for inspiration, Shahira Mehrez blends the old and

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Mehrez's sources for crafts also include craftsmen from the Siwa oasis who still weave baskets in the traditional method — so tight that the basket is water-resistant.

a weaver still using traditional Islamic designs, and a carpenter who produces mother-of-pearl inlaid furniture. She also sells carpets woven by the bedouins of the Libyan desert who use them to barter for goods. These warmcoloured carpets are striking with their pattern of dark red. yellow and white wool woven in irregular stripes.

With her energy, spirit of enterprise and artistic sense, Mehrez brings into the light the rich but too often forgotten cultural heritage of the provinces. Her latest plan to launch a line of clothing both modern and traditional promises to turn any peasant girl into a princess -World News Link.



By Clare Pedrick PISA — The good citizens of Pisa haven't had much time for the Romans since medieval days, when this once-great maritime republic lined up its forces against the soldiers of the Vatican. Now a new and equally bitter dispute has erupted over the future of Pisa's proudest possession -- the famous Leaning Tower, one of the world's most photographed

monuments. Officials down in the Italian capital say that the 55-meter tower is dangerous and could topple over at any moment. After studying a scientific report, Minister of Public Works Giovanni Prandini described it as "a matter of extreme urgency" and has recommended that the tower be closed for restoration. A special committee has been set up to study how to support the structure.

The people of Pisa are horrified by the news. After warning that closing the tower, which attracts 800,000 visitors a year, will cripple the city's tourist inthe mayor recently reand declared a threemonth closure, but the battle

continues. The University of Rome's History of Art Department has lodged a strongly worded protest suggesting that Signor Prancini cease to meddle in things he doesn't understand, while Professor Giuseppe Toniolo, head of the Opera della Primaziale - an ancient order that has looked after the tower since the 13th century — complains about being kept in the dark about Rome's intentions. "I would hope we might be consulted in the future," he said tartly. "After all, we have been looking after the tower for 800 years."

Just what keeps the tower from toppling is a mystery that cludes a solution. The tilt is a full 5 metres from the perpendicular and increases slightly but steadily every year. The bells at the top of the tower have not been rung for years for fear of destroying the precarious balance. Aircraft are banned from flying over the monument, although few pilots

can resist the temptation. One theory is that the tower was deliberately built at an angle. as a kind of medieval practical joke. In another theory, it was an architectural blunder, a notion now dismissed by modern scholars who point out that when building began in 1173 the Uni-

versity of Pisa had one of the world's finest schools of

tiny mother-of-pearl buttons

mathematics and architecture. "Frankly, we don't know what happened," said Professor Piero Pierotti, a renowned expert on the monument, "There is nothing certain about the tower." One thing that is certain is that the tower began to lean even as it was being built. Drawings show that by the time work was completed. in the early 14th century, the building was aiready at an angle of 1.5 meters.

Professor Pierotti, who teaches in the History of Art Department at the University of Pisa, has spent 30 years trying to unravel the mysteries of the monument. "I am fascinated," he said. "It's a puzzle no one has ever been able

His studies show that the tower

to solve."

Greek temple to very precise mathematical principles, with the Greek column as the unit measure. The building was conceived

as a public-relations stunt, he says. "At the time, Pisa was a maritime republic and the richest in the Mediterranean, trading with the Islamic merchants front north and east Africa. The main piazza, and the tower with it, were built to show off Pisa's wealth when it hosted an aumual fair each August -- one of the world's first trade fairs."

Pierotti, who has just received a grant from the computer firm Olivetti to make a complete electronic survey of the monument, is one of the most vocal opponents of the Rome plan to shore up the structure. "The trouble is, the engineers from the ministry are treating the tower as though it was built along the lines of a were a modern construction, built

of reinforced concrete." he commented with barely concealed disdain. "We should study it far more deeply before we start fiddling with it. We must learn from the stones. It's an architectural manual if you know how to read

Professor Pierotti predicts that the tower has a good 1,000 years ahead of it before it finally tips over. "It's been worked out that can afford to learn another meter, which, at the present average of 1 millimeter a year, gives it a long way to go yet," he said. "The monument is not dangerous. I'd feel more scared going up the Eiffel Tower in Paris. That was never built to last as long as it

Among plans being considered by Public Works Minister Prandini is one to inject cement into the

bollow walls of the tower. Critics charge that the project would destroy the tower's natural resiliency, which has protected it from earthquakes and gale-force winds over the centuries.

Another proposal is to surround and support the tower with 32 metal stake driven into the ground, like a giant iron cage. Monstrous," thundered Pierotti. "The stones of the tower are held together by gravity, not cement or plaster. The pressure would send the thing crashing to

the ground." Yet another plan would involved sinking two huge metal arms beneath the foundations of the building, one pushing and the other pulling. By Pierotti's reckoning, that could cause the tower to snap off at the base like a

plucked flower. "If that doesn't

bring the tower down, nothing will," he quipped.

Professor Pierotti could have a

point. History shows that every time man has started to interfere with the monument's magic balancing act the building has begun to lean even more. Back in 1838 a well-meaning architect dug a circular trench around the tower, which responded by lurching dramatically. A century later another "expert" decided to pour cement into its base. "The tower didn't like that, either," said the professor.

Support for the hands-off campaign arrived from an unexpected quarter in the form of Soviet engineer Fedot Ignativic Piotr. who flew in from Moscow clutching a model of the tower that he had built after 12 years' study of the phenomenon.

Piotr, who teaches at Moscow University, claims that the tower's movements are caused by the tides or the phases of the moon and has strongly warned against upsetting the delicate balance.

Said Pierotti, "What he says makes good sense. We know that the soil beneath the tower is clay and that 8 meters below that there is a water course linked directly to the sea, which is only 11 kilometers away. It would also explain the constant nature of the movement over the years. It's always been human intervention that has sparked off the dramatic changes in the tilt."

Back in Rome, such ideas are dismissed as fanciful. Ministry officials point ominously to the tower in the northern city of Pavia that collapsed earlier this year, killing two people. The Pisa

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lobby counters by hinting darkly that the Rome officials may have ulterior motives. "If these works do go ahead, a lot of money will be spent, which will mean very good news for whomever gets the contracts," said Pierotti. "There has been talk of a figure as high as 100 billion lire. It does make one rather suspicious."

Until the temporary closure a few weeks ago, the tourists have made it clear whose side they are on. Officials selling tickets at the base of the tower reported that business had never been so good. Visitors eager to climb to the top of a structure that may no longer be standing by the time that their grandchildren are born were swarming up the 275 crooked steps to the bell tower at the rate of more than 1,500 a day. -World News Link.

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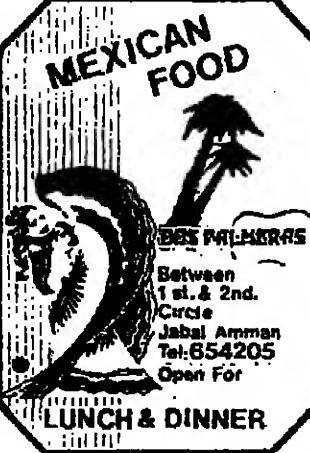
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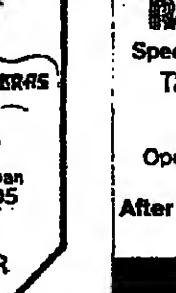
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## Aramco announces new oil and gas find in Saudi Arabia This provided Saudi Arabia to

DHAHRAN (Agencies) — Saudi Arabian Oil Co. announced Sunday the discovery of a gas and oil field, the third find in six months in the world's largest oil exporter.

The announcement from Saudi Aramco headquarters in Dhahran said the strike, in the Raghib area around 123 kilometres southeast of the Sandi capital of Riyadh, was commercially viable.

Testing on Jan. 1 showed Raghib-1 well could produce 3,650 barrels per day, while gas could be produced at the rate of 10 million cubic per day, it said. The well was spudded on Nov.

The announcement, distributed by the official Saudi Press Agency, said the oil was of the high-quality, sulphur-free crude oil found earlier in the year in the Dilam and Al Hawtah discoveries.

Saudi Oil Minister Hisham Nazer said Friday that the new oil discoveries south of Riyadh produced oil of the highest quality which could raise Saudi Arabia's per barrel oil income by \$1 to \$2.

The tested Raghib formation was at a depth of between 8,023-8,133 metres, said the amouncement. Further drilling was planned to determine the reserves. The kingdom already boasts the world's largest single oil reserves which its updated esti-

mates of last year put at 252

billion barrels. Saudi Aramco has

recently intensified its search for new oil deposits in the centre of the kingdom, away from the massive producing fields along the Gulf coast.

The company will continue seismic surveys and drilling to determine the relationship between the Raghib strike and the earlier discoveries at Dilam and Al Hawtah, the announcement

Saudi Aramco said Raghib-1 is located 27 kilometres south east of the Dilam-1 discovery well and 95 kilometres north of the Al Hawtah-1 strike, it said.

The oil and gas formation at Dilam, announced by the kingdom in November, was at a depth of 8,100 kilometres, with testing indicating a production capacity of 4,300 barrels per day of oil.

The crude discovered at Al Hawtah in July had a viscosity of 44 degrees API and contained 0.06 P.C. sulphur. The highest quality crude currently exported by Saudi Arabia has an API gravity of 39 degrees and a 1.1 P.C. sulphur content.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia seems set to enter a decade of steady economic expansion after making painful budget cuts throughout most of the 1980s, bankers and diplomats have said.

Unveiling its 1990 budget, the government has projected its first spending increase since the oil boom peaked in 1981, with planned expenditures rising by 1.4 per cent in the coming year to 143 billion rivals (\$38.1 billion).

"We think they will begin to climb from here on out. They have turned a corner," said a Western diplomat in Riyadh.

The kingdom saw a dramatic fall in oil revenues from more than \$100 billion in 1981 to a low of \$13.6 billion in 1986, forcing it to make budget cuts up as high as 15 per cent a year for most of the decade.

But diplomats said the market for Sandi crude oil picked up substantially in 1989 and looked likely to keep on rising. Total 1989 revenues rose to

around 120 billion to 125 billion riyals (\$32 billion to \$33.3 billion) from the originally projected 116 billion, they said, and this was nearly all due to an increase in oil

Revenues rose to around 120 billion to 125 billion riyals (\$32 billion to \$33.3 billion) from the originally projected 116 billion, they said, and this was nearly all due to an increase in oil income. "Markets were much, much

stronger than anyone anticipated a year ago. The budget worked out better than anyone thought," said the diplomat.

around \$65 billion, but only \$20 billion to \$25 billion are liquid, Oil revenues were expected to rise still further in 1990 to 86 bankers said. If oil revenues were billion riyals (\$23 billion) from to remain stagnant the reserves around 81 billion in 1989. could last as little as four years.

### Jordan boosts farm exports

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan last year exported 527,000 tonnes of vegetables and fruits worth JD 103.6 million, and imported 47,000 tonnes of other agriculturai products from Arab and foreign countries to meet local market demand, according to a statistical bulletin issued Monday by the Agricultural Marketing Organisation (AMO).

The builtein said vegetables accounted for nearly 81 per cent of the total exports, earning Jordan some JD 78.8 million. Tomatoes came at the top of the list of exports, accounting for 42 per cent, followed by cucumbers,

eggplants, pepper and citrus fruit.
Most of Jordan's exports of vegetables and fruits went to Arab Gulf states mainly to Saudi Arabia which bought 41 per cent of the total exports, followed by Knwait, 29 per cent; the United Arab Emirates 16 per cent; Bahrain, five per cent and Lebanon four per cent, according to

It said that the rest of the exports or one per cent of the total went to European countries. According to the bulletin, last

year's exports registered the highest figures in the 1980s exceeding the exports of 1982 when Jordan exported a total 514,000 tonnes. The 1989 exports exceeded by 29 per cent those of 1988, the bulletin added.

Referring to imports, the bulletin said that most of Jordan's purchases in the past year were apples (29 per cent), dried onion (20) per cent, potatoes (18) per cent, dates (13) per cent and other types totalling eight per cent.

## Economist estimates Soviet millionaires close to 30,000

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Up to 30,000 people in the Soviet Union are millionaires, mostly from dealing in the country's thriving black market, a leading economist was quoted as saying.

Tatyana Koryagina, a member of the government commission on economic reform, told the daily Komsomolskaya Pravda that up to 30 million people were involved in an intricate network of providing scarce goods and ser-

She said her work with police and officials of the prosecutor's office made a mockery of official figures putting at 30 the number of millionaires in the country. "My assessment would put

them at between 15,000 and 30,000," she told the newspaper. "According to our figures no fewer than 30 million people are tied up in the shadow economy and the turnover involved approaches 100 billion roubles (\$160 billion)," she noted.

She said unmasking and prosecuting entrepreneurs was complicated by the fact that large groups involved had "a reliable umbrella, a legal expert, their own man in the police or in local or senior levels of government."

Koryagina has gained some notoriety for her exposes of black market operations in the country. She regularly cites figures for various malpractices connected with the country's chronic shortage of basic goods.

In October she told a newspaper in the Baltic republic of Latvia that conservatives in senior positions were hatching a plot to overthrow President Mikhail Gorbachev.

interview, Koryagina said most of the money accumulated in black market deals was kept in gold ingots, coins, icons, antiques, cars or property.

She dismissed suggestions that monetary reform — introducing a new currency to undermine black market operations - would expose up to 100 billion roubles in funds derived from illegal transactions. "My calculations show that this

figure will be some five times lower," she said. "And monetary reform is a very costly exercise for the state."

Another Soviet newspaper said consumers who regularly face shortages of food and other items have staged a hunger strike and five-day rally for a very different kind of product - Japanese videocassette recorders.

The newspaper Sovietskaya Rossiya called the recent protest in the Russian city of Yaroslavl a "video-uprising.

Some of the frustrated consumers launched a hunger strike in the town centre to demand a chance to buy Panasonic VCR's.

the government daily said. Traditionally, imported electronic goods have been quietly distributed only to the party and government elite or sold on the black market, where a VCR can fetch as much as 4.000 roubles (about \$6,400).

The days, under the Kremin's economic reforms, factories that earn foreign currency are generally allowed to decide for themselves how to spend it, and frequently buy Western consumer goods for their workers.

Sovietskaya Rossiya said the disturbance began when word spread recently that imported VCR's for workers with foreign currency had been delivered to store in Yaroslavi, an industrial city about 200 kilometres northeast of Moscow.

Some 200 people immediately surrounded the store and sat through the night, demanding they be given the chance to buy the VCR's as well. Two other stores that also received shipments were similarly besieged the newspaper said.

At dawn of the fourth day, the residents launched a protest on the central town square, it said. Eventually, city authorities per-In her Komsomokkaya Pravda suaded the workers who were to receive the VCR's to share some of their spoils with the public, the newspaper said. When the store at the centre of

the turmoil did not immediately begin selling some of its 158 VCRs to all comers the next day, a group of citizens declared a hunger strike, Sovietskaya Ros-After five days of turmoil, a

buyer walked out of the store with the first VCR, called the local television station and declared: "Victory. The Panasonic is in my hands," the newspaper . inflationary pressures.

Sovietskaya Rossiya said this was the first time in Yaroslavi history that videocassette recorders were sold freely to the

Residents of the central Russian city of Sverdlovsk took their frustration to the streets in similar unrest on Dec. 29, when a crowd upset by the shortage of vodka

gathered downtown and halted

city transport. Communist Party officials soothed them and flooded the stores with vodka, and the crowd dispersed when people rushed off to buy their bottles, the newspaper Rabochaya Tribune, or workers' tribune, reported.

The Sovietskaya Rossiya story did not specify which days the "video-uprising" took place, but indicated the disturbance had just

Meanwhile, growth in Soviet labour productivity is running far short of official targets but the government has made inroads in cutting its crippling budget deficit, Pravda has said.

Citing preliminary figures from the State Committee on Statistics, the Communist Party daily said labour productivity grew by 2.5 per cent in 1989, far short of the 4.5 per cent official target. It said one-fourth of all enterprises and trusts failed to meet

production targets, at a cost of the economy of more than 10 billion roubles (\$16 billion). But the newspaper said the budget deficit had been reduced to about 92 billion (\$150 billion)

from 120 billion roubles (\$200 billion) at the start of 1989. This compared to earlier predictions for the deficit by the end of 1989 of 95 billion roubles (\$155

"This was mainly due to measures adopted by the government to improve the economy. These helped increase income and cut expenditures by 22 billion roubles (\$36 billion)," Pravda said.

The newspaper warned there were signs of continued trouble for the Soviet economy. Growth in wages continued to outstrip growth in productivity.

过江:

In the past government has simply printed more money, pushing up wages and building

## Israel blames foreign banks for holding up aid for Koor

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli treasury said Sunday that opposition by foreign creditor banks to a recovery plan for Koor Industries Ltd was holding up government aid to the industrial giant.

The treasury put off a meeting with Koor and bank officials scheduled for Sunday night because of uncertainty about a government proposal to save the trade union-owned concern

BEIRUT (R) — A power strug-

gle between two rival administra-

tions in Lebanon is harming the

international value of the coun-

try's currency, already weakened

U.S. dollar Pound Sterling Deutschemark

Swiss franc

One Sterling

One U.S. dollar

which is a billion dollars in debt. "Aid to Koor will be effective only in the context of a comprehensive arrangement. The position of the foreign banks is still far from allowing this arrangement," the treasury said in a

Foreign bank officials were not available for comment. Koor, announcing it would have higher-than-forecast losses

by a chronic economic crisis.

The central bank posted the

lira Monday at 550 to the dollar

compared to last Friday's close of

540, a loss of 20 points.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Monday, January 8, 1989

Central Bank official rates

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for

1.6450/60

1.1600/10

1.6823/30

1.5335/45

35.37/42

5.7400/50

1257/1258

144.50/60

6.5425/75

6.5410/60

One ounce of gold 403.60/404.10

6.1590/1640

1.8995/9005

655.0

1063.4 1074.0

384.2 420.9

French franc

Japanese yen (for 100)

Italian lira (for 100) Belgian franc (for 10)

U.S. dollars

Canadian dollar

**Deutschemarks** 

Dutch guilders

Belgian francs

French francs

Japanese yen

Swedish crowns

Danish crowns

U.S. dollars

Italian lire

Swiss francs

Tension weakens Lebanese lira

112.6 113.7 448.7 453.2

340.1 105.0 51.8 184.1

453.2

343.5 106.1 52.3 185.9

for 1989, presented a revised fiveyear recovery plan in November including a write-off of \$125 million in debt by Israeli and foreign

The foreign banks, led by U.S.based Bankers Trust and Manufacturers Hanover, rejected the plan and refused to take part in the write-off. Israeli banks said they opposed the write-off without a tougher recovery plan.

"The main reason behind the

lessening value of the lira is the

collapsing economy which re-

sulted from 14 years of civil war

but the latest political and milit-

ary tension is acting as a catalyst," said economic expert

"What makes the situation

even worse is the lack of faith in

Lebanon's economy... people

have no hope that a solution to

the country's chronic problems is

near... the lira will loose even

more value in the coming days,"

The value of the lira rose to 413

But the currency began loosing

value again as Lebanon's two rival cabinets — one led by Aoun

to the dollar after a ceasefire last-

September ended months of

Fouad Chbaqlo.

he said.

fierce fighting.

Koor, which employs more than 20,000 workers and accounts for over 10 per cent of Israel's industrial output, owes local banks more than two thirds of the billion-dollar debt.

produce within its current OPEC

quota of just over five million

barrels per day and based on a

barrel of Arabian light, the ben-

chmark Saudi crude, selling at

Diplomats said Saudi budget

"The government probably

projections for both revenues and

expenditure were probably low.

considers current spending at the

rock bottom minimum to main-

tain a certain level of economic

activity and political stability,"

According to sectoral figures

released by the government,

allocations for administration de-

cuts on the administrative side,

which is hard to do," said

"They will have to make sharp

The government said it would

make up the difference between

revenues and expenditure by con-

tinuing its sensitive programme of

issuing rival-denominated bonds

But bankers say their appetitu

for the medium-term instruments

has largely been satisfied and

many are being taken by govern-

Arabia was currently drawing \$4

to \$6 billion a year from its

The reserves are estimated at

Diplomats estimated that Saudi

in the local market.

ment pension funds.

foreign reserves.

said a banker.

Quoting what appeared to be treasury leaks, Israeli newspapers reported Sunday the government would give Koor \$50 million in aid promised last year and another \$50 million in return for

east Beirut and the other

The government has not been

able to collect most taxes since

civil war exupted in 1975. Part of

the economic infrastructure has

been destroyed and economic

activity completely stopped dur-

ing last year's six months of

Central bank sources said

money borrowed by the govern-

ment from the public sector to

cover its expenditure has reached

some 1,000 billion Lebanese liras

(about \$1.78 billion) — more

than one third the value of Leba-

non's gold and foreign reserves.

of gold and \$1,180 million of

foreign reserves.

Lebanon has 9.2 million ounces

fighting.

headed by President Elias Hrawi

in west Beirut - struggled for

The newspapers said Hevra

Haovdim, Koor's parent company, would in return hand over its shares of the national airline El Al, Zim shipping company and national water authority Mekory. The Histadrut trade union fed-

eration has said it is ready to yield part-ownership of Koor in return for government funds. In its statement, the treasury

said it had yet to decide its policy towards Koor. It said it was examining offers by foreign investors interested in Koor firms but did not elaborate.

## ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

### Study analyses Jordan-Iraq ties

BAGHDAD (Petra) — The Iraqi General Assembly for Trade Exhibitions and Fairs has prepared a study on trade centres and their role in promoting economic and trade ties between Jordan and Iraq. The Iraqi News Agency said that the study was made up of three chapters dealing with the Jordanian economy, development of Iraqi-Jordanian economic and trade ties and political, economic developments in Jordan and the role of the trade centres opened in Amman and Baghdad to promote bilateral trade. The agency said that the analytical study also provided details about trade exchanges between the two countries and the role of the trade centres in this regard. The study called for encouraging the two countries to embark on barter trade through their respective trade centres in Amman and Baghdad.

### Jordan-Iraqi firm review plans

BAGHDAD (Petra) — The board of directors of the Iraq-Jordan Land Transport Company (DLTC) is holding a meeting in Baghdad to discuss achievements in the past year. The board will also discuss plans for 1990 and issues related to maintenance and operations by trucks owned by the joint company which was founded in 1980, with a \$50 million capital. The company now owns 750 trucks which transport goods between Iraq and Jordan on the one hand, and between the two countries and other Arab destinations on the other.

### Turkish inflation slows to 68.8%

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkey has said that annual inflation slowed in 1989 but bankers warned unless the government remed in spending the problem of high prices would remain. The State Statistics Institute said inflation fell in 1989 to 68.8 per cent after showing a rise of 75.2 per cent in the previous year. Bankers, pointing to a widening budget deficit, said inflation would cause worries if public spending was not cut. Turkey's budget deficit is expected to top 6.2 trillion lira (\$2.7 billion) in 1989, against an official target of 4.48 trillion lira (\$1.9 billion). Economic growth was around one per cent in 1989 while the population grew 2.5 per cent, stoking official fears that unemployment, already at 17 per cent, may increase further.

### Kuwait raises salaries, pension

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait said Sunday it was increasing the salaries of government employees including the military. The increase, effective from Jan. 1, will cost around 85 million dinars (\$290 million), according to a statement issued by the official news agency KUNA after the weekly cabinet session. It said the move embodied "the emir's desire to be in contact with the conditions of the citizens and his continuous efforts to reduce their burdens." The percentage rise in salaries was not detailed nor the numbers of people who would benefit. The increase will go to workers and servicemen currently eligible for Kuwaiti social allowances and to pensioners and families getting social aid.

## leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday. THE BETTER HALF. By Harris HARRIS Norwegian crowns

### **WORLD STOCK MARKETS**

SYDNEY — The market closed weaker after last week's Wall :Street-inspired rally ran out of steam. Profit-taking and lower closes in offshore markets on Friday dampened sentiment. The All Ordinaries Index fell 11.1 to 1,699.8.

TOKYO — A last-minute index shopping spree by investment trust funds sent share prices narrowly higher at the close after lingering in mixed trading for most of the afternoon. The Nikkei Index rose 20.20 to 38,294.96.

HONG KONG - A shortage of buyers pushed blue chips down, with most investors sidelined awaiting clearer signs on the political front. The Hang Seng Index fell 23.70 to 2,816.24. SINGAPORE — The revamped Straits Times Industrial Index rebounded from a slight setback on Friday and gained 15.95 to a record 1,547.42.

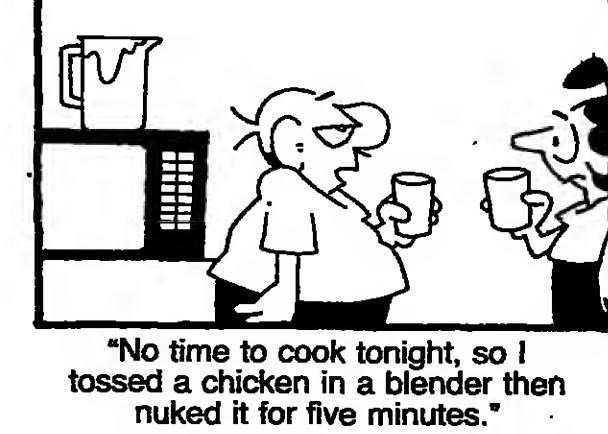
BOMBAY — Dividend payments brought cash to the market and share prices withstood profit-taking by state-owned investment trusts. The Bombay Index gained 3.75 to 778.33.

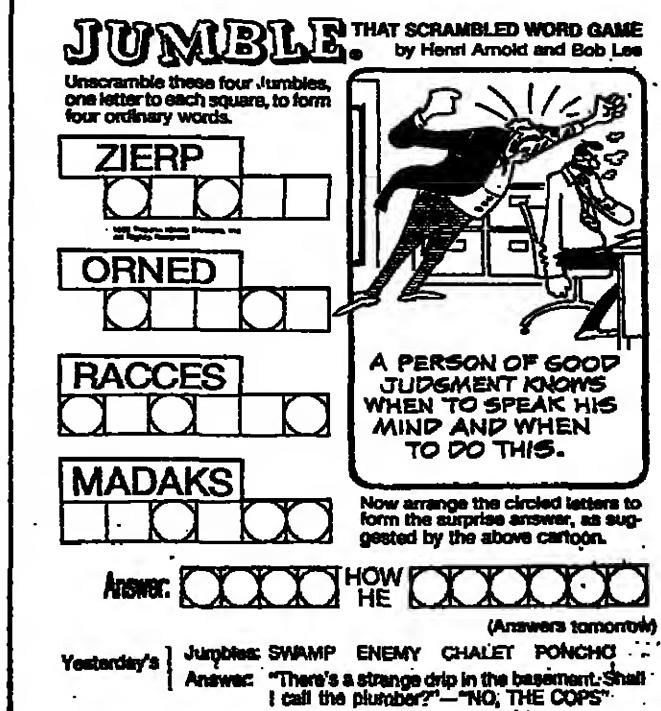
FRANKFURT - Foreign orders poured into the German stock market boosting the DAX index 23.24 points to 1,843.23. ZURICH — High Swiss interest rates kept investors on the sidelines. The SPI index fell 1.8 points to 1,149.4.

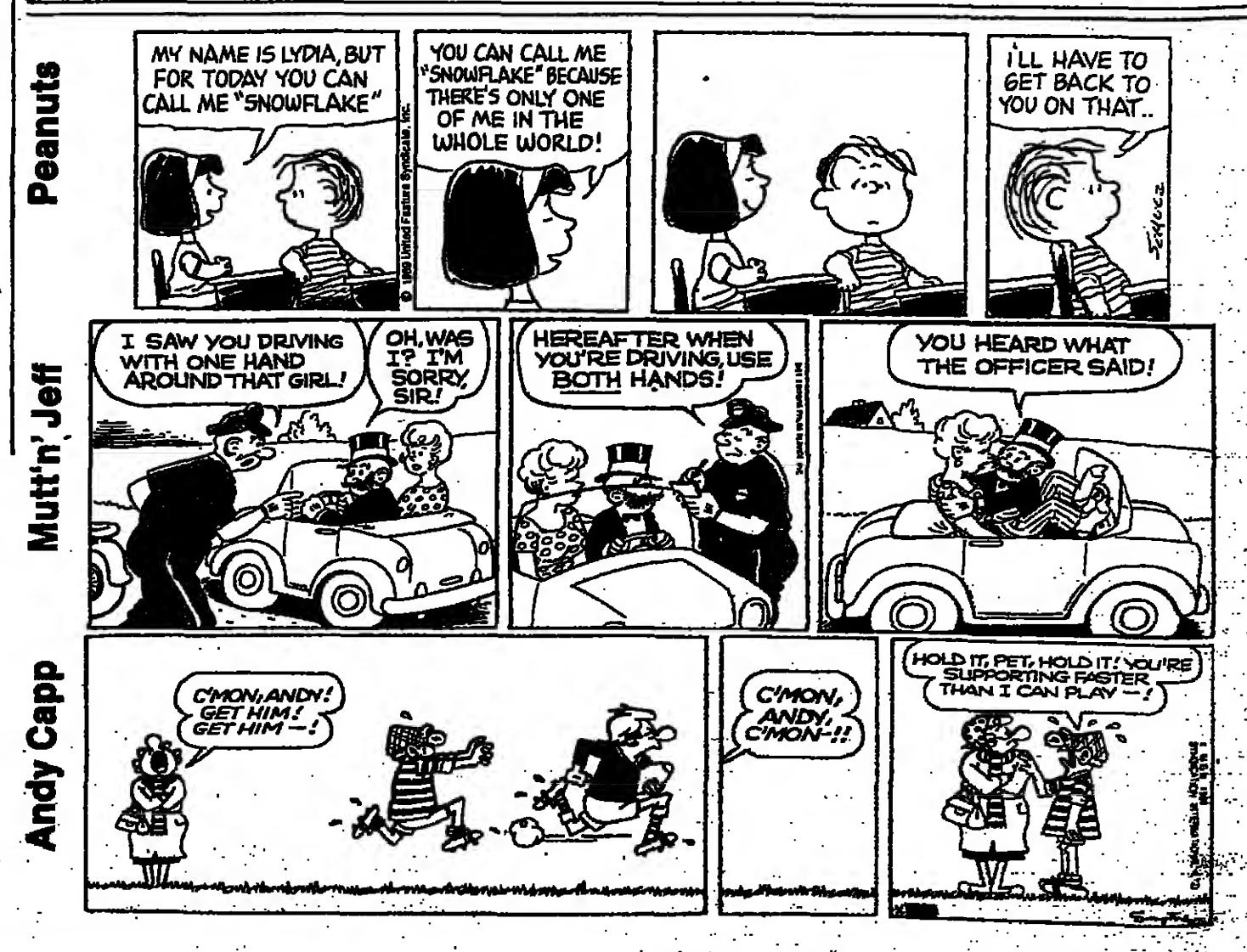
PARIS — Shares prices fell after weekend adjustments in the European Monetary System indicated that French interest rates stay remain high to defend the franc.

LONDON — Investors were worried by Friday's fall on Wall Street and by a possible rise in West German interest rates, which could put pressure on streding. At 1603 GMT the FTSE index was down 10.9 points to 2,433.6.

NEW YORK - A prime rate cut by the three major banks reversed initial losses. At 1602 GMT the Dow Jones Industrials were 1.07 lower at 2,772.18.







## Masur defeats Sanchez

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) - Masor, ranked 37 in the world, Australia's Wally Masor beat Javier Sanchez of Spain Monday - had been halted at 3-3 in the third In the \$400,000 New South Water Open tennis championships to carn a possible second-round match with Boris Becker.

Masur beat Sanchez 2-6, 6-2, 7-6 (7-1) in a first round-match that was stopped for more than four hours by rain at the white city courts. Organisers were forced to postpone several opening-round matches until Tuesday. When play was abandoned late

Monday, France's Yannick Noah, the eighth seed, led Ronald Agenor of Haiti 6-4, 2-1 in another first-round match, Andrei Cherkssov of the Soviet Union, runner-yp last year to American Aaron Krickstein, scored a 6-1, 4-6, 6-4 first-round

win over Czoch Peter Korda. Such is the strength of the field that Cherkssov, ranked 76 in the world, this year was forced to qualify for the main draw.

work down Sanchez after play set, carning a likely confrontation with reigning Wimbledon and

The West German, sooded second here behind world number one Ivan Lendi, plays his first match Tuesday against another Soviet, Ajexander Volkov.

appearance Tuesday against Canadian Andrew Sznajder in another opening-round match. In the only other first-round

### GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

NORTH \* X J 10 5 TAJ953 V 763 EAST \* A Q 742 **+** 963

· 189852 9 K 4 **4**654 # 872 SOUTH 2 K 6 4 LOAD **★ KO1 1893** 

C 872

The bidding: South North 2 5 Pass 4 NT 5 7 Pan Pass Pass Opening lead: Ace of 4 While the chances of any linesse

succeeding are even money, that does not mean that all finesses are equal. Consider South's dilemma at six ciubs after the lead of the ace of spades. Which is the right red suit to finesse? Once North could bid freely at

the two-level. South decided, somewhat impulsively, to commit the hand to sizm. He wisely chose to play in clubs rather than hearts to protect his diamond tenace from at- - he claimed the rest of the tricks.

U.S. Open champion Bocker.

Lendl also makes his first

men's match completed Monday. France's Guy Forget beat Mark Koevermans of the Netherlands

in the women's section, ninthseeded Gigi Fernandez, 10thseeded Barbara Paulus of Austria and Americans Terry Phelps, Elise Burgin, Ann Grossman and Carsiny MacGregor all notched first-round was.

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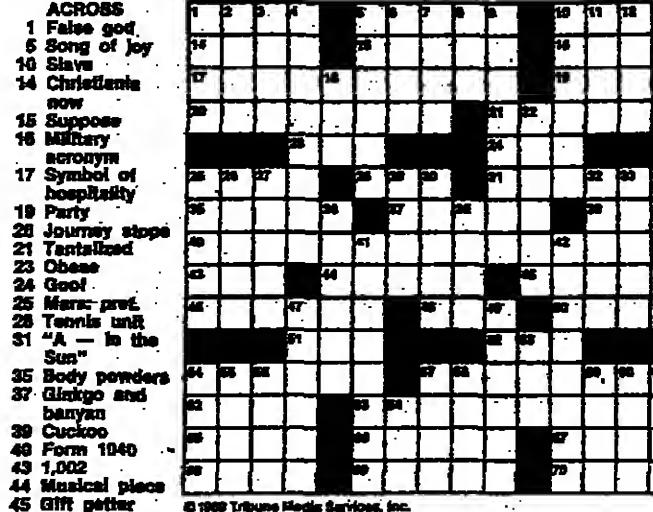
JUST ONE PRECAUTION North-South vulnerable. South tack on opening lead.

West lod the ace of speaks and made the obvious thift to a trump. Declarer came to hand with the king of bearts and drew the outstanding trumps in two rounds. Which red suit should be tackle, and when? Since West is likely to have the king of dismonds for her overcall,

declarer should forget about that finesse. And there's no hurry to take the heart book. First, South should play off three more rounds of trumps to see what the defenders discard. On the first two. West has no probleta-two spades can be spaced. The third discard is another matter. West can't let so of a made without setting up two additional spede tricks in dummy, and a heart makes it easy for deciater to guess the heart position. Therefore, West should, without visibly suffering an anxiety attack, shelf a distribut. holding onto her two remaining hearts. Meanwhile, dummy has come down to three hearts and the

king-jack of spaces. A careless declarer might now have tried the heart fixesse and gone down. But having done so well to this point, declarer was not going to faker at the final hurdle. South first cashed the ace of diamonds and. when the king came tumbling down.

### THE Daily Crossword by Stanley S. Whiteen



50 Friendly vielts Tie Roof 83 Fonda/Volaht 12 Routine 13 Escaped 25 Many ---

48 Sixth sense

51 Fr. vineyend

65 Transmitted

(normally) Ms Bombeck

1 Amphiliteater

2 On the bridge

3 Associate

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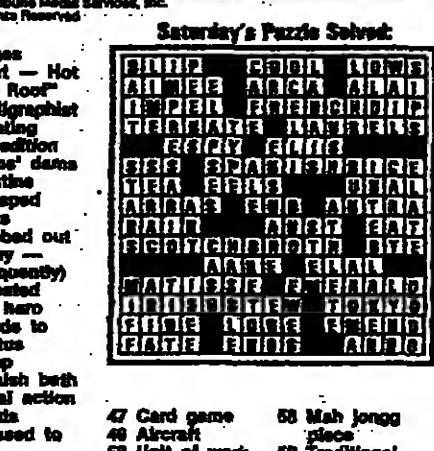
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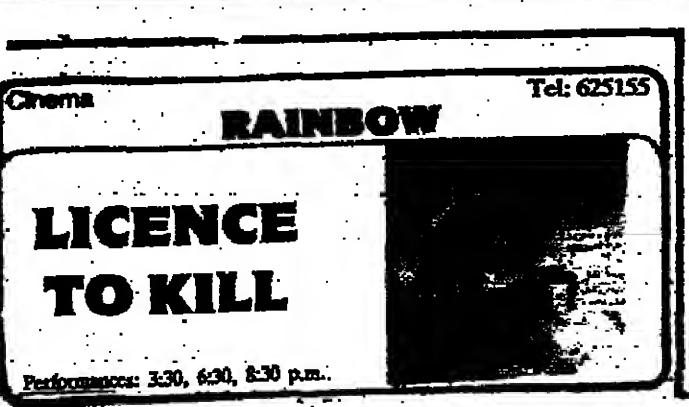
70 Actual

7 Edges 8 "Cet — Hot 9 Calligraphist 10 Hunting expedition 11 Rems' dama 27 Sp. hero Scotos. 30 Swep 32 Finnish beth 33 Lugal action

29 Words to 24 Dressed to 36 Solled 41 Old Italian 42 la unison



55 Mah Jongg piece 59 Traditional 63 Unit of work 61 Transaction 64 Sp. gold



### Pele predicts top-quality 1990 World Cup

cournament favourites.

"Brazil has a very high quality

team with players experienced in

European soccer. They know a

good performance in Italy will

guarantee new contracts," he

utilize its speed and play aggres-

attack and to have midfielders

that move to the front... If we're

able to do that, we'll dispute the

Pele, who led Brazil to the

He said defending champion

Pele said the Soviet Union,

world championship in 1958, 1962

and 1970, is now an adviser to the

well in its exhibition games but,

"if Maradona recovers from his

opening round play, is also a top

title," Pele said.

national team.

He said Brazil would have to

"It's important to use speed to

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) Argentina, Holland, Germany - Brazil's ex-soccer great Pele and the Soviet Union as prepredicted this year's World Cup in Italy would be marked by top-quality play and pointed to six lavourites, in a newspaper interview published Sunday.

Pele told the Rio daily Jornal Do Brasil that the tournament, which gets under way in June, would be special because a large number of the world's top stars -including many from powerhouses Brazil, Holland and Germany - play for Italian teams during the regular season,

"The main attractions are well known to the Italian fans. The stars will be battling to affirm their level of play, on the same stage but wearing another shirt,"

He said the participation of Argentina had not been playing standouts such as Careca of Brazil, Maradona of Argentina, and Gullit of Holland would ensure a injuries they'll be strong again." beaustiful tournament."

"The stars will try, with all which will compete along with their talent, to lead their team to Argentina in Group B during the title." Pele said. Pele pointed to Brazil, Italy,

### HOROSCOPE

contender.

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY JANUARY 9, 1999 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Any problems that come to you today or tonight will undoubtedly be from the past, Forget any mistakes made and concentrate instead spon what you can do to improve the future.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) See friends who have been away for a while but are back in your circle again now. Romance should be going along very smoothly for you today.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Take a couple of friends to a good restaurant for some social pleasure and you will produce a closeness with them that will last over years, GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) A new source of income can become yours at this time by an unusual idea. Avoid inviting unwelcomed guests into your home to avoid trouble.

July 21) Hold back from spending any considerable amount of money on pleasure. Don't procrastinate on your vacations plans with mate. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Youhger couples will be your best mode of social expression now. Try to get out in the world of activity more with your mate.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) A good day for any changes you want to make at your residence. Your money affairs will now improve if you listen to a wise

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Do all the things with your

attachment that you have delayed doing. Not a good time to argue with your family on their over outside confacts.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Keep your family on their toes by inviting various guests there at your home. Tactfully keep your mate from going over budget

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Don't allow your emotional impulses to get you out of touch with your attachment. You will need to be selective of the friend you see.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Doing small courtesjes for loved ones brings great results. Your friends will have helpfu ideas for your future business prog-AQUARIUS: (January 21 to Febru-

ary 19) Taking your attachment to meet outside associates would be a good idea now. Younger persons will now bring you pleasure in your PISCES: (February 20 to March

20) Don't try to put all your creative ideas into your business so quickly. Your family can help you very much in projects so let them. Today's child: If your child were born today he of she will be very capable at whatever is modern and

un to the minute so slant their education along New Age lines that provide a good grounding in History and Political Science. Travel to and living in different

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## Napoli under fire for lacklustre play

Reuters

ITALIAN first division leaders Napoli were met with a torrent of criticism for lacklustre play after beating lowly Ascoli 1-0 only a week after their first league defeat of the season.

The fans were the first to react. For the first time they booed and whistled the team on Sunday on their home ground.

Skipper Diego Maradona, who himself set up the 72nd minute goal headed in by Andrea Carnevale, heard the racket only too clearly, "The fans have the right to

whistle. We players can't do anything about it," said the stocky Argentine World Cup captain. Anyway, this match was awful — the worst of the season. It was

he admitted. Despite the poor performance,

to atone for last week's away defeat to Lazio, Napoli stayed top with 27 points.

The Gazzetta Dello sport

hailed the 3-0 bammening as "an excellent show --- rhythm, concentration and speed."

Mauro Tassotti and European footballer of the year Marco van

just a problem of concentration." Internazionale who maintained their second place thanks to a fine 1-0 win against Cremonese.

which trainer Alberto Bigon put down to the team trying too hard

In contrast, there was only praise in Italy's sports papers for title contenders and world club champions AC Milan, who blitzed three goals past Cesena.

Goals from Italian international Roberto Donadoni, defender

Basten took Milan's points over the last seven league games to 13. The top placings were virtually unchanged, with Milan still fifth and Napoli two points clear of

Midway through the Spanish season, it was all smiles at Real Madrid after they beat neighbours and bitter rivals Atletico Madrid 3-1 on Sunday.

Grumbling and recent disputes between club president Ramon Mendoza, Welsh coach John Toshack and the team have evaporated.

"We have scored 55 goals, we top the standings with a six-point lead. What else can we ask for?" said Mendoza. "I am delighted with the coach. The team is playing as if it were on wheels.

Mendoza also said he would keep Rafael Martin Vasquez, whose contract expires at the end of the season, and who scored two of Real's three goals. "I'll make him an offer that no other Spanish team can outbid," he

Atletico president Jesus Gil,

with Mendoza before the game, said: "I am very disappointed and disillusioned. I the ght they were going to score see n. Maybe we

are selling more are soon than we can give... Barcelona had to wait until the last minute to beat Athletic Bilbao 2-1 and stay in the battle for the league title - but they are still third and six points behind

Relief was the main reaction from Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson after the English first division side, who have not won since mid-November, put Nottingham Forest out of the Football Association (F.A.) Cup on Sunday.

"Those last 15 minutes are when you age," said Ferguson after the third-round tie which United won by the single goal, a header from striker Mark Robins who had waged a war of words in the 55th minute.

mates, unaccustomed to the chill of

the coldest winter of the century in his

host city. Socrates suffered a severe

case of "saubaude," the chronic

homesickness which afflicts many

Brazilian players who leave their

country to play abroad. Although his

contract called for two years of ser-

vice for Florence's team, Socrates

reached an accord with the ciub that

allowed him to return home in the fall

recalls. "Nothing was going well. I

had even started to drink more than I

should have. Certainly the soccer part

of it contributed to my malaise. But

most of all I wasn't at peace with

myself. And when you lack that inner

tranquility, it's natural that you think

of returning home. On top of my own

problems, it was a very important

time for Brazil, a time when the

country appeared to be making a turn

towards democracy. I wanted to be

Socrates' "saubaude" did not dis-

appear upon his return to Brazil. "It

took me three years to get back to

being myself," he adds with a smile,

"to where I was finally able to put my

personal problems behind me and get

on with living. I'd say it ended for

around to play a role in that."

"I had a lot of problems," he

## New philosophy for Socrates

By Ken Shulman

ROME (WNL) — The tall, dark, bearded Brazilian carries a little more weight on his 1.90-metre frame than he did while wearing his country's colours in the 1982 and 1986 World Cup tournaments. And at first glance the fire in his eyes is dimmed. But

only at first. "In my playing days I weighed 74 kilogrammes," says Socrates as he stretches out on the couch of his Rome hotel room and lights up a cigarette. "Now I think I am close to 85 kilogrammes."

The elegant midfielder who spearheaded what most observers believe was the finest national team of the 1980s still looks fit enough to take the field. Only recently retired from soccer, Socrates Brasilero Sampaio de Souza Viera de Oliveira has spent the past six months trying to divine his future.

Most sport star with Socrates' universal appeal usually trade in their spikes for lucrative publicity contracts. Others become coaches or television commentators. Yet Socrates never met the stereotype of the typical soccer star while playing, and there is little reason to believe he will

conform in retirement. "I'm trying to decide what to do with my life now," he explains. " retired from soccer six months ago after playing my last season with sthe Botogofo club in Brazil. This was my first professional team as well, and it was a good way to complete the cycle of my playing career."

Socrates was in Rome for the recent World Cup draw as a spokesman for Mastercard, a World Cup sponsor. At present he lives with his second wife in Ribeirao preto, Brazil, where he was worked as a pediatrician since his retirement from soccer "I will probably end up taking a job it medicine," he says. "But I'd also like to keep in touch with the soccer world, although I doubt that any club owner would want to hire me as his coach. Maybe even something that had to do with politics. The important thing is to participate in as many activities as possible."

As a player Socrates was showered with prizes and awards. Brazil elected

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him outstanding player in 1982 and 1983, years when international Brazilian stars like Zico, Junior and Falcao were in their beyday. In 1983 the stylish Socrates was named best play-

er in South America. Soccer analysis are still at a loss to explain how Socrate's Brazil was climinated from the World Cup tournament by Italy in 1982 and by France in 1986. "You have to understand that for Brazil, the World Cup is first and foremost a festival of soccer," Socrates explains. "In Europe they play the same to win. In Brazil the show is what counts. The best thing I suppose would be to effect a sort of compromise, which is what Sebastaso Lazzaroni, the current Brazilian coach, is

trying to do." Socrates leans forward to sip his espresso coffee, his dark, deep-set eyes focusing across the room, halfmelancholy, half-proud. "It was an extraordinary group," he says. "Extraordinary players, and extraordinary men. And I can assur you, if we had played only to win, Brazil would have been world champion in 1982

For the 1990 World Cup, Socrates tabs host country Italy as the overwhelming favourite. "It's a good team, a young team which has been playing together for four years now. And they are playing at home, which is a great advantage. They also have some excellent players, Gianluca Vialli, and Roberto Baggio who is not a starter yet, but should be when the cup kicks off in June."

The former Brazilian great knows something about international competition: Socrates made his national team debut in May of 1979 and played for Brazil's "Selecao" 58 times, including two World Cup appearances. "The World Cup is an ideal situation for players," he says. "The grass is always perfect, the stadiums are always full, and the matches are always played at an extremely high level. The pressure is indescribable. (Take) our match against France in Mexico (in 1986), for example: We were tied I late in the second half and the referee whistled a penalty kick in our favour. Zico took the shot and missed, and we later lost the game in a penalty lock shoot out."

wanted to know why we had let Zico take the penalty when he had only entered the game 10 minutes earlier and was still cold. But the truth is that none of us noticed. When it came time to decide who would shoot, it scemed that Zico had been on the field for an eternity. We had no idea how much time had passed. It was that intense. Socrates was known as much for his

"After the match, the journalists

social and political views as he was for his patented "backheel" pass. "I think I caused my club owners a lot of problems," he says with pride. He is a bit more thoughtful these days, more reflective, but he is not humble. "And I also was subject to power is in the hands of the conservatives. It's very easy for a soccer player or a singer or a movie star to be manipulated and used as a vehicle to express certain ideas. I was always under pressure to act the way my club owners thought I should, not to speak about the political situation in my

country, or about apartheid." Because of his penchant for speaking his mind, and because he was far more complex than most of his teammates. Socrates was often subject to virulent criticism. "When things are going well, management and fans will tolerate almost anything," he notes; "but when the team starts to lose, critics single out the person who is different, the person who stands out. It's true in sport just like it's true in all other fields."

Socrates hit his nadir during a nightmare season with Florence's Fiorentina team of the Italian first division in 1984-85. Expecting the Brazilian star to reverse the team's dropping fortunes, Fiorentina fans vented their resentment on the foreigner when he failed to lead their team to victory.

"It was an impossible situatin," he admits, trying to laugh. "The team was split into two factions. They did not even talk to each other in the locker room, let alone pass the ball to each other on the field. And I walked into the middle of this fend I know that Fiorentina hired me to run their offence and set up goals. But it's difficult to set up goals when you never see the ball."

The one Italian season was probably the most difficult year in Socrates' life, and a year which left him deeply scarred. Excluded by his team-

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for August 1990 In clarification of the Amman Baccalaureate School advertisement on January 3, 1990, the school invites applications for the following positions for August 1990.

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Application forms may be collected from the school, and should be returned by Thursday January 11, 1990.



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OLD TIMES



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# Rebels besiege second largest Cambodian city

BANGKOK (Agencies) — Communist Khmer Rouge guerrillas were besieging Cambodia's second largest city Monday, but Thai military officers and Western diplomats said they did not expect Battambang to fall.

"I think this attack on Battambang is more of a psychological nature, to send shock waves through Phnom Penh and make them want to talk,' a Western military analyst said.

The Khmer Rouge said they attacked Battambang last Friday, coinciding with the 11th anniversary of the installation of the present Cambodian government by Vietnamese forces. But Cambodian President Heng Samrin in a National Day speech Saturday did not refer to it. Samrin in his speech, moni-

tored in Bangkok Monday, said Cambodia must "bravely confront" the threat of a return to power of the Khmer Rouge, overthrown by Vietnamese troops in December, 1978. The Khmer Rouge killed hundreds of theousands of their countrymen when they controlled the country, Western governments say.

Samrin said that following the withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops last September "our struggle in the coming dry season will be full of most of difficult tests and trials."

A Western diplomat said he could not independently confirm Khmer Rouge claims they had laid siege to Battambang, a key city of 200,000 people 230 kilometres north west of Phnom penh, but added: "I tend to beheve it."

He said it was not the Khmer Rouge style to take large fixed positions and he doubted that the

persons were still missing.

Actor lan Charleson dies

Academy Award for best picture.

Communist guerrillas would try to overrun the heavily defended city as they could suffer heavy

A Khmer Rouge source said he did not expect the guernillas to. attempt to overron the city. He said their aim appeared to be to "put pressure on them (Plmom Penh leaders) and cut their supply lines."

A senior Thai military officer at the border said the Khmer Rouge, the strongest of the three guerrilla groups that make up the United Nations-recognised Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, began laying siege on Battambang after setting its main market on fire with artillery fire last Friday.

He said the guerillas, using tanks and artillery seized from government troops, had cut key roads linking Battambang to Phnom Penh.

"Battambang town burns brightly," Khmer Rouge radio reported Saturday.

The Thai officer said the Khmer Rouge also rained mortar and artillery fire on Battambang Sunday night but eased the shellings Monday and appeared to be consolidating their positions around the city.

Asked why the Khmer Rouge were laying siege of Battambang if they did not intend to overrun it, a Western diplomat said this was probably "to show they are very much a force to be reckoned

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

More Soviets to pull out of Hungary

BUDAPEST (AP) — The Red Army will pull out an airborne

regiment, two tank battallions and 6,000 troops this year as part of

a unilateral troop withdrawal from Eastern Europe, the Hunga-

rian News Agency (MTI) reported Monday. Col.-Gen. Grigory

Krivosheyev, Soviet deputy chief of staff, was quoted as saying

the troop cuts, to include also a mechanised infantry regiment,

will cover more than 40 military aircraft, 120 tanks, some 180

armoured cars and 400 other motorised vehicles. "The decisive

majority of the troops pulled out from Hungary will be demobil-

ised," MTI quoted Krivosheyev as saying. He did elaborate.

Dominican boat sinks with 50 on board

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP) — Dominican

navy planes Sunday searched for survivors from a boat that

overturned last week with 50 would-be emigrants off the island's

east coast, a newspaper reported. The bodies of 12 Dominican

drowning victims were recovered during the weekend from the

shore waters of Higney province, some 230 kilometres east of the

capital of Santo Domingo, the daily Listin Diario said Sunday.

Fifteen of the passengers swam ashore and were arrested shortly

afterward, the newspaper said. A Dominican navy Sunday said 23

LONDON (AP) — Actor Ian Charleson, who starred in the film

"Chariots of Fire." has died after a battle with AIDS, his agent

said Sunday. Charleson was 40. The Scottish actor, who had

recently played Hamlet at London's National Theatre, died at his

London home Saturday evening, "following a courageous strug-

gle with the AIDS virus," Michael Whitehall said. He said the

cause of death was septicemia, a disease caused by microorgan-

isms in the blood. Charleson, who received critical praise for a

series of stage roles, achieved international fame in the 1981 film

Chariots of Fire in which he played Scottish Olympic athlete Eric

Liddell, a Christian missionary whose religious commitment took

precedence over competition. Liddell refused to participate in

games on a Sunday, the Christian sabbath. The film won the

LONDON (R) — Comedy actor Terry-Thomas, who established

his screen career as a sneering English cad, died Monday aged 78,

the Parkinson's Disease Society announced. He had suffered from

the debilitating illness for 15 years and appeared in fund-raising

advertisements for the society. Among the films in which

Terry-Thomas played the quintessential black-hearted rotter were

Private's Progress, I'm All Right Jack and Those Magnificent

Men in Their Flying Machines. His trademarks were a distinctive

gap between his front teeth, often emphasised by a cigarette-

holder, a military moustache and an upper-class accent. He was

born Thomas Terry Hoar Stevens and began his career as a stage

and radio comedian. He originally used his first two names but

complained that people thought he was related to the actress

Ellen Terry, so he reversed them and stuck in a hyphen as a

tribute to the gap in his teeth. Terry-Thomas's final years of illness

and poverty, nursed by his second wife Belinda, constrasted with

the time in which he starred in almost 200 films, among them

Carlton Browne of the Fo, School for Scoundrels, Monte Carlo or

TOKYO (AP) — Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu left Monday for

West Germany on the first leg of a seven-nation European tour

mimed at strengthening Japan's ties with Europe. Kaifu left

aboard a chartered flight on an 11-day trip that also will include

visits to Belgium, France, Britain, Italy, Poland and Hungary as

well as the Vatican. The tour is widely seen here as an effort to

demonstrate the prime minister's expertise in foreign affairs

AMRITSAR (AP) — Suspected Sikh extremists fatally shot two

constables outside a bus station Monday and ran to the house of

one victim were they killed four of his relatives and a servant,

police said. An 11-year-old boy also was killed in the shooting

outside the bus station at Budhsingh Wala in Punjab state, said

Surjit Singh, the senior superintendent of police. The village, in

Ferozepur district bordering Pakistan, is about 160 kilometres

north of Amritsar. Singh said two gummen with AK-47 assault

rifles hidden in their ciothing followed constables Mukhtiar Singh

and Santok Singh as they got off a bus and opened fire,

ahead of parliamentary elections expected in February.

Sikh extremists kill 8 in Punjab

Bust and the Last Remake of Beau Geste.

Kaifu leaves on European tour

Comedian Terry-Thomas dies at 78

There are some 52,000 Soviet troops stationed in Hungary.

On Monday Khmer Rouge radio dismissed as "rubbish" a recent statement by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze calling for a political settlement of the Cambodian problem and a halt to military aid to warring Cambodians.

It said Moscow in late 1989 sent shipments of arms and ammunition to Cambodia and opened a consulate at Kompong Som seaport to boost the shipments of "war conforment."

Cambodia's defence minister was admitted anti-government guerrillas are advancing in areas near the Thai border, and said his forces are concentrating defences in major towns and roads.

"The enemies have been gradually advancing in their attacks against a number of our positions along the border. To be sincere, we have lost some positions. Gen. Tea Banh said in an interview carried Sunday.

It was broadcast by the official radio of the Phnom Penh government. A transcript seen Monday in Bangkok did not say when the interview took place. "Generally speaking, we are

still victorious," the general said. "We cannot stay in every village. We have to abandon some and keep some strategic ones. This is inorder to concentrate our forces so that they are strong and have sufficient strength in opposing the enemies in battles." he said.

Tea Banh said most areas the guerrillas have seized are along the border with Thailand, where the guerrillas maintain sanctuaries on Thai soil while government forces must travel hundreds of kilometres to reach this front, he said.

SAN SALVADOR (AP) — An

official investigation has unco-

vered military involvement in the

November massacre of six Ro-

man Catholic priests suspected of

sympathising with rebels, Presi-

was involvement of some ele-

ments of the armed forces" in the

slayings, Cristiani said Sunday

night over radio and television.

In addition to the priests, who

were educators at a Jesuit-run

university in San Salvador, the

assailants killed the clergymen's

housekeeper and her 15-year-old

daughter five days after leftist

rebels began the largest offensive

was implicated, nor did he indi-

cate the units, rank or number of

chiefs of staff said earlier Sunday

night that members of an elite

battalion had been confined to

base and were being questioned

in connection with the slavings.

convicted of a politically moti-

vated slaying since civil war

erupted in late 1979, though the

army has been linked to right-

wing death squads blamed for the

No military officer has been

However, the head of the joint

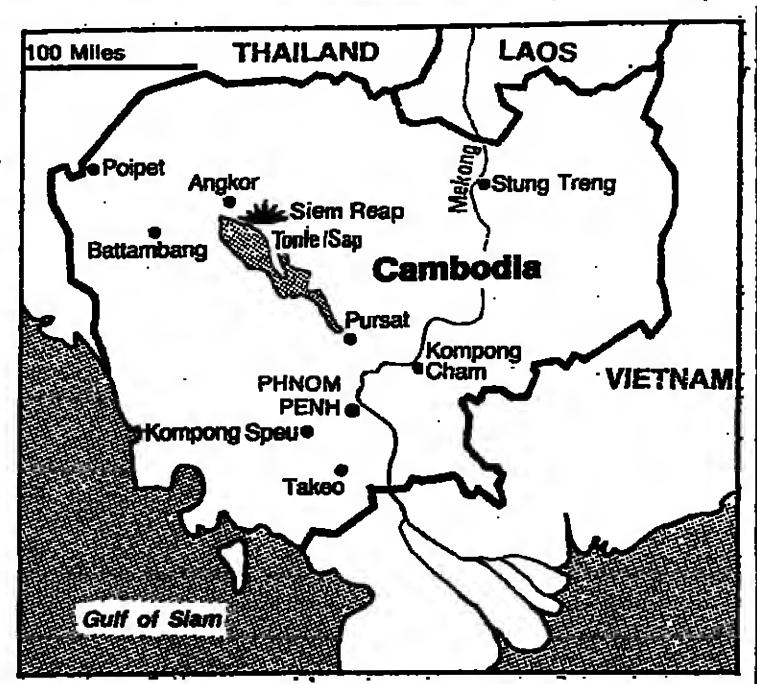
Cristiani did not specify who

of their 10-year insurgency.

those responsible.

"It has been determined there

dent Alfredo Cristiani said.



He conceded that the captured areas included Banteav Chmar, Kdol and Anlung Veng. The Khmer Rouge said they seized Anlung Veng on Dec. 20, toppling a base that had protected the government defence network along the Dang Rek Mountains along the Thai-Cambodian

Tea Banh said authorities were building trenches and had organised village militiamen into medium-size forces to help regular troops.

He said the government still managed to defend the capital of Banteay Meanchey province in the north west, as well as important district and roads. He denied guerilla claims to control Route 5, a main highway crossing the length of the country to Pinom

The general said the guerrillas were trying to capture Banteay Meanchey, Siem Reap and Battambang provinces as bases to overthrow the government. "I can firmly say that the ene-

Salvador probe uncovers army

murders of thousands of sus-

pected leftists in the early 1980s.

that continued bipartisan support

for the rightist Cristiani govern-

ment depends to a great extent on

finding out who killed the priests

Christiani said a "special com-

mission of honour," including

high-ranking military men and

civilian lawyers, had been created

to expose the truth about the

lada: To missescre ... In its comblete

U.S. authorities have indicated

role in killing 6 Jesuit priests

and punishing them.

magnitude."

mies have no capability of toppling us," he said. It remains a guerrilla war of sabotage and retreat with no large-scale offensives involved, he said.

"The main thing for us now is to defend at: all costs townships major communications networks and a number of passes," the general said.

Non-Communist guerrilla leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk said in a statement that by denying the Khmer Rouge an equal role in the peace process, the Vietnamese-installed government of Premier Hun Sen was forcing it "to continue fighting indefinitely."

"And if one day the Khmer Rouge were to win the war in Cambodia and return to power, responsibility would rest without any doubt with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Hun Sen regime and their Western supporters." he said.

copy of Sihanouk's statement, issued on Jan. 3 in Peking. was seen in Bangkok Monday.

### Romanian tribunal begins trial of security agents

BUCHAREST (AP) — The first of the captured security agents loyal to ousted President Nicolae Sunday. Ceausescu went before military tribunals Monday, accused of resisting a popular revolt.

The first tribunal opened in the Transylvanian city of Sibiu, ruled until Dec. 22 by Ceausescu's son Nicu, where "a group of terrorists who fought against the people in the army" faced a military court, said the ruling National Salvation Front.

Front spokesman Aurel Dragos Munteanu told reporters' he did not know how many defendants would face trial and gave no details of the charges they face in Sibiu or other centres of heavy fighting, such as Bucharest and Timisoara.

The accused have no right of appeal, he said, but journalists will have access to the tribunals. The front, which has been governing since Ceausescu was separate rally at the capital's ousted Dec. 22 organised the secret military tribunal that ordered the president and his

mas Day. Since then, the front has abolished the death sentence, meaning that the captured members of crack security units who battled the army after Ceausescu was ousted face a maximum sentence of life in prison.

wife, Elena, executed on Christ-

Munteann said those still under investigation include Nicu Ceausescu and Gen. Inlian Vlad, the former head of Ceausescu's once-powerful Securitate, which has been ordered disbanded by Romania's new leaders. Asked about weekend state-

ments from President Ion Iliescu and Vice-President Dumitru Mazilu that elections scheduled for April could be postponed, Munteanu said he knew of no such postponement as yet.

The half-dozen political parties formed since Ceausescu's execution have charged that the National Salvation Front would have an unfair advantage in any early poll because of its control of state television and government.

Some political groups have accused the television of boycotting their gatherings while giving ample coverage to Iliescu's National Salvation Front. Romanian television cameras did not follow demonstrations by two parties and students in Bucharest

Munteanu countered these complaints by stressing he believed in a free media and noting that representatives of the Peasant Party and Liberal Party appeared on television Sunday night to present their group's

"After these parties had registered, they were given access to television," he said.

programmes.

About 300 supporters of the Peasant and Christian Democratic Parties led a Sunday march through Bucharest for those who fell in the uprising against Ceansescu's 24-year rule. As they knealt and prayed in

the bitter cold, the marchers were ioined by thousands of others who paced along the ice-covered sidewalks in a solemn procession. About 2,500 students met for a polytechnical institute, deman-

During Ceausescu's reign, political subjects, extolling the virtues of "scientific socialism" were

ding reform of Ceausescu's heavi-

ly indoctrinated education

compulsory for all students. Nicolae costel, a Christian Democratic Party official, said thousands more students had gathered in other cities, including Timisoara, the cradle of the revolution, 500 kilometres north west of Bucharest.

The Peasant Party was a power in parliament before the Communists abolished it in 1947, and both it and the Christian Democrats have been traditionally anti-Communist.

Since their renaissance, the two parties have joined forces in preparation for the promised April elections and have warned against a Communist resurgence. They see the National Salva-

tion Front, which includes several former Communists in its leadership, as a de facto front for Communism.

"They are calling for a Communist Party," said Constantin Dimitrescu, 53, referring to tentative calls by some Communists to reform as a Democratic Socialist Party. "We say to that --- the wolf has changed its fur but not its morals."

# CALLIMN

#### Who takes the garbage out?

WELLESLEY, Massachusetts (AP) — This affluent suburb of Boston is getting particular about who takes the garbage out. If the maid or batler is not the live in kind and turns up at the community's state-of-the-art recycling and disposal facility with their employers' refuse, they will be turned away at the gate, Department of Public Works Director Pat Berdan said."If the maid lives in the house, she can (bring in rubbish). But if it's a bired worker that comes there," no, she can't," Berdan said. Though not in any financial difficulties. Wellesley still counts its pennics. The Public Works Department is cracking down on commercial dimpers who try to evade the \$80-per-ton dumping fee.

#### Neil Diamond to be honoured

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Singersongwriter Neil Diamond will behonoured during the American Music Awards presentations with a special award of ment for his contributions to music. Steve Wonder, the 1982 Award of Merit winner will present the trophy to Diamond during the televised awards shows on Jan. 22 from the Shrine Auditorium. Past receipts include Bing Crosby. Irving Berlin and Elvis Preslev. "Beginning in the 1960s, he has written, recorded and performed his very special songs about love, loneliness, good times and patriotic feelings about America," reads the inscription on the

### Queen Elizabeth to lend art treasures to Moscow

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LONDON (R) — Britain's: Queen Elizabeth has agreed in principle to allow art treasures from her private collection to go on show to the Soviet Union for the first time, Buckingham Palace said Sunday. The Sunday Times. newspaper said two Faberge easter eggs which once belonged to the queen's relative Tsar Nicholas II, shot dead by the Bolsheviks in 1918, would be shown in Moscow later this month. The eggs, encrusted with gold, silver, diamonds and precious stones, carry portraits of the Tsar's five children, who were killed with their father and Mother Alexandra by the Cheka political police at Ekaterinburg in the Urals. Produced by Goldsmith Peter Carl Faberge, the eggs were later bought by King George V, the queen's grandfather, and his wife Queen Mary. The Sunday Times said the eggs, now on display in: San Diego, California, would be flown to Moscow later this month for an exhibition in the Kremlin's Armoury Museum.

#### Freed prisoner prefers lail

PRAGUE (R) — A: Czechoskovak prisoner released under this week's presidential amnesty walked into his local police station and demanded to be put back in jail, the trade union daily Prace has said. The man identified only as Martin J, aged 25 told police in Hradec Kralove in Eastern Bohemia that he didn't want amnesty and threatened to "do something bad" if he was not returned immediately to prison, the paper said in an article entitled, "I want to go back to jail." Police took him to a psychiatric clinic after he refused offers of help from the social services. More than 20,000 prisoners were due to be released under the country's biggest ever amnesty, announced last Monday by Czechoslovakia's new non-Communist President Vaclay Havel.

Lawyers for Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega are rejecting the idea of a plea bargain, saying they will go to trial if they fail to have all drug charges dismissed. "The government chose to

and they shall have their trial. Frank Rubino, one of several lawyers defending the former Panamanian ruler against U.S. indictments, said Sunday.

Another lawyer, Steve Kollin

"General Noriega is innocent of these charges," Kollin said "Plea bargaining takes place when somebody is guilty, in my opinion."

Plea bargains usually result in a antita bies to sesset custises in exchange for information the government can use in other cases. Such action would brevent a trial and release of documents sensitive to national security or embarrassing to the government that Noriega's lawyers might want for the defence.

The Baltimore Sun reported Monday that the U.S. governstrongman.

The U.S. attorney's office has made a "very preliminary" offer to Lt.-Col. Luis Del Cid, a for-

The president said the commission would work with investigators to "make sure justice done" and promised punishment "down to the last person impli-

Cristiani has also offered a \$250,000 reward for information leading to the murderers' arrest and conviction.

The slayings of the six priests prompted some U.S. legislators to question aid to the Cristiani adminstration, which took office in June, succeeding the centrist government of Jose Napoleon

The massacre also recalled the March 1980 assassination of Oscar Arnulfo Romero.

Cristiani asked the Salvadoran people to avoid speculation while investigators carry out their work. Agents from the United States and Spain have aided in the probe and Scotland Yard detectives arrived this past

Archbishop of San Salvador, who

was killed by a sniper as he said

mass. Despite available evidence

and testimony, the Salvadoran

judicial system has failed to bring

Romero's killer to justice.

weekend to take part. The head of the joint chiefs of staff, Col. Rene Emilio Ponce, said Sunday that 47 soldiers from the elite Atlacati Battalion, including two officers, had been

confined to base for questioning in the case but were not under It was unclear whether those soldiers and officers were the

ones referred to by Cristiani. Ponce said the 47 were members of the unit that conducted a search of the Jesuit priests' residence at the order's Central American University two days

before the priests were slain. Asked if the men were implicated by evidence other than the fact that they conducted the search. Ponce declined to com-

## Noriega lawyers reject plea bargain

WASHINGTON (Agencies)

bring General Noriega to trial

said prosecutors had not offered a plea bargain, nor had he sough such an agreement.

President George Bush last week did not rule plea bargaining out as an option, saying it would be Noriega's right as a defendant in the U.S. justice system.

ment has made an offer to a co-defendant of Noriega as it seeks to boister its case against the former Panamanian

mer key Panamanian Defence Forces official who surrendered to U.S. authorities before Noticga sought sanctuary in the Vatican nuncio. Specifics of the offer were not reported. Del Cid is accused of acting as

liaison, courier and emissary for Noriega in his transactions with drug dealers. Rubino said the defence had

been concentrating on getting the case against Noriega dismissed and had not begun looking for evidence to clear Noriega in a

National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft said the administration was not worried about documents that could embarrass the White House and wouldn't try to block them. He said, however, he didn't

know if any documents existed relevant to the case that might harm national security. "As far as I know there aren't

any," Scowcroft said. "You had the attorney general saying he didn't anticipate any problems of that character. I don't know whether the files have been searched to the ultimate."

He emphasised that the case against Noriega was based on drug trafficking. "That's a fairly narrow part of

his whole relationship with the United States," Scowcroft said. Meanwhile fugitive members of Noriega's defeated defence forces are still a nagging concern for U.S. officials nearly three weeks after the American invasion of Panama

Lieutenant General Carl Stin- any dissident groups.

er, commander of the U.S. invasion forces, estimated there were at least 200 former Panama Defence Forces (PDF) members and elements from paramilitary Dignity Battalions still on the loose.

"We've got to ensure that we root out these elements that are capable of disrupting the government as it stands up. This is a very fragile time," Stiner told repor-

Some top U.S. military officials downplay the significance of the PDF remnants but they admit some concern.

"Yeah, there's a concern, I wouldn't blow it out of proportion but go day by day and see how it developes," said U.S. Colonel Al Cornell, charges with province at the weekend, police rebuilding Noriega's defeated military into a new public security

Washington's biggest fear since the Dec. 20 invasion has been the prospect of a projonged guerrilla war breaking out which could destabilise the fledgling U.S.backed government of President Guillermo Endara.

"If this thing drags on and we have guerrilla war on our hands a few months down the line, the people fighting will come from those battalions unaccounted for," said a U.S. military intelligence officer with four years'

experience in Panama. Stiner said the top priority for U.S. troops in Panama was to find the fugitives, and destroy the leadership and infrastructure of

#### to report coup recruiters military revolt soon, calling MANILA (Agencies) — The Philippine army chief Monday. Aquino's New Year's Eve cabinet

Philippine army orders

warned troops they faced oro- revamp "a dance of thieves." secution if they failed to report efforts to recruit them for any future comp attempt. Rebel soldiers threatened to strike again. In a directive to the 65,000-

strong Philippine army, Major-General Manuel Cacanando said neutrality could not be tolerated and ordered any soldier with information about another mutiny to report it to a superior officer. He said some troops knew ab-

out the December revolt against President Corazon Aquino in advance but "kept that relevant information about the planned rebellion to themselves thinking, perhaps, that it would be better to remain silent and neutral on the matter."

He said it was the duty of every soldier to report such information and that those failing to do so would be charged with being an accessory, even if they did not take part.

Asked about rumours of mother coup attempt, Aquino told a news conference the government was "taking all necessary measures in order to protect the citizenry and to make sure that the military continues to stay loyal to our constitution and to the government." She did not elaborate.

Fugitive comp leader ex-Colonel Gregorio Honasan warned in a letter published in a Manila newspaper Monday of another

Television stations joined 12 of the country's biggest newspapers in broadcasting editorials Monday rejecting army attempts to grab power. Jose Galang, acting editor of

the Manila Chronicle, said citizens' group led by former President Diosdado Macanagal met with publishers and editors last weekend and asked them to join in a campaign to preserve Philippine democracy.

"There was an agreement... to address a common issue, which is the need for democracy and peace to counter fears among the people of a return to fascism." Galang said in an interview. More than 100 people were

killed and hundreds wounded in the Dec. 1-7 insurrection that army rebels said they staged to protest against government corruption, inefficiency and Aquino's lack of direction. The Philippine Daily Inquirer said "military adventurists" had

plunged the nation into fear and added: "How long will we tolerate this situation where a military maniac with an itchy trigger finger has his bloody hands on the throat of an entire nation." Meanwhile suspected Communist rebeis bombed a coconut mill owned by opposition Sen.

Juan Ponce Enrile over the weekend, the military reported Monday.

### 9 die in S. African unrest

JOHANNESBURG (R) --- Nine people were killed in fighting between rival black activist orgamisations in South Africa's Natal said Monday. Three of the fatalities came

during clashes between two groups of people near Patensi village Sunday. Police fired shotguns and rifles to stop the fight and a fourth man was killed, police said without elaborating. Five people, including a woman shot by a group of men who set fire to her house, were killed in separate incidents.

Police rarely identify the political affiliation of people involved in the Natal clashes, in which more than 2,000 people have been killed in almost three years of unrest.

katha, a powerful political movement supported by traditional Zulus and favoured by big business, and the leftist United Democratic Front (UDF), which schools.

is denounced by the government as a Communist organisation. Both groups want to end apartheid but differ on tactics. Inkatha favours a change from within the structures created by Pretoria, a strategy the UDF rejects. They both acknowledge that the violent rivalry harms the

black cause in South Africa. Meanwhile teachers and parents in Soweto, South Africa's biggest black township, began a campaign Monday to re-enroll children in defiance of government rules.

The government bars readmittance of pupils who have failed matriculation twice and those deemed "dropouts" by anthorities.

Parents and teachers in Johannesburg's Soweto township also The fighting is between in- demanded some matriculation examination papers, be re-marked. saying the poor results were caused mainly by underfunding and overcrowding in black

weather

(major world cities)

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